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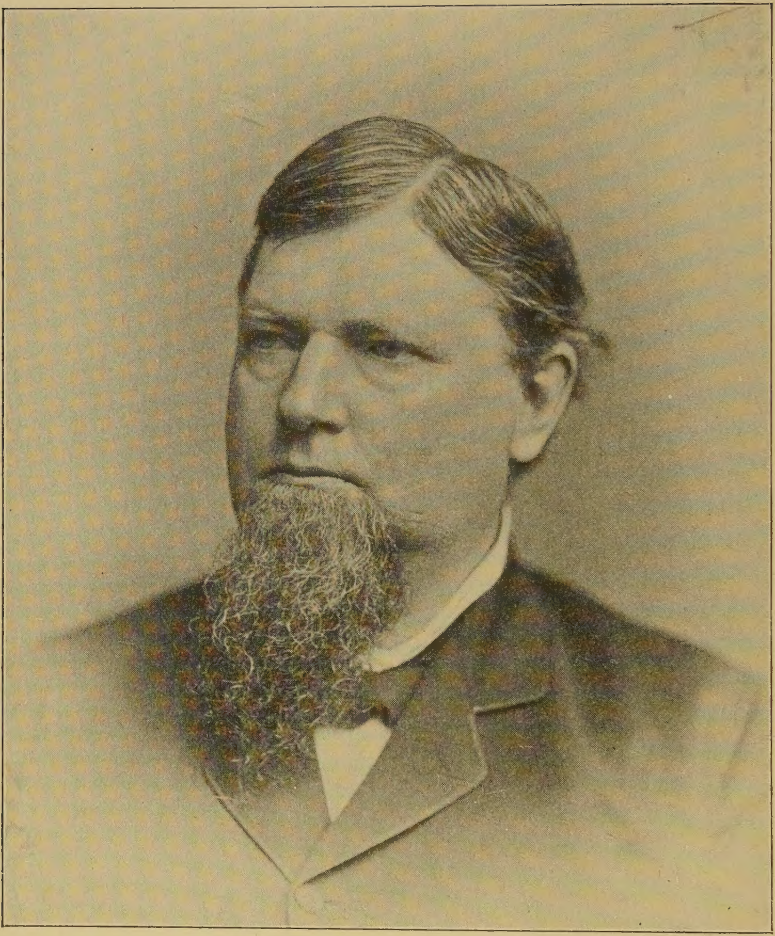

HENRY MARTYN HOYT
SOLDIER, LAWYER, HISTORIAN.
GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA 1879-1883.
BORN IN KINGSTON TOWNSHIP JUNE 9, 1830.

HISTORY OF

The Certified Township of Kingston

PENNSYLVANIA

1769 to 1929

TOGETHER WITH

A Short Account of The Fourteenth Commonwealth

BY

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

PUBLISHED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF KINGSTON
FOR USE IN THE SCHOOLS.

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PREFACE

SOME years ago, the writer contributed a historical sketch for a special edition of the Sunday Independent; and at the next meeting of the school directors of Kingston Borough, Hon. H. A. Gordon commented on it, and urged the teaching of local history in the public schools. To the sentiments thus expressed, the other directors readily assented, and passed a resolution requesting the author to prepare a history of Kingston Township for use in the schools. Mr. Gordon's interest in the study of local history, is perhaps accentuated by the fact, that his grandfather James A. Gordon, Esq., during his long life, published many articles, dealing with our history, and to his interesting reminiscences, the writer is indebted for much valuable information.

An earnest endeavor has been made to comply with the director's request; and although undertaken without expectation of any pecuniary reward, the labor expended in the preparation of this book being freely donated, the writer will consider himself fully repaid, if the work arouses an interest in local history, and inspires some children with a greater love for their native town. It is not pretended that this is a text book in the usual sense. It is intended to be used as a course of reading, and guide to the study of local history, by pupils of more mature minds. There are several chapters in which school children will probably not be interested, other than as sources of information; but it was considered advisable to include the subjects, treated in those chapters, because of their value as public records.

The history of Kingston Township is so much the history of Wyoming Valley, that during all the formative years until after 1800, this book narrates, generally the incidents and records of the whole region. Thereafter, it is confined more particularly to Kingston Township, and its later subdivisions.

The best of the early histories were those written by Mr. Chapman and Mr. Miner; and of the later histories, with the exception of Governor Hoyt's valuable treatise, "A Brief of Title in the Seventeen Townships", none have been found of great value, save the splendid work, in two volumes, by Mr. Harvey, which brings our history down to the close of the Revolution. The earliest and greatest sources of information are the diaries, manuscripts and writings of Colonel John Franklin. The arrangement and development of the matter in most of our histories, follow the outline contained in his writings, so that in point of fact Colonel Franklin was our first historian.

In the preparation of this book, the writer has examined all the original records of the Susquehanna Company, and of Westmoreland, now mainly in the keeping of the historical societies at Hartford, Wilkes-Barre and Montrose; as well as the public records of Pennsylvania, and Luzerne County. The newspapers published at Wilkes-Barre and Kingston have been very valuable sources of information. The region in Connecticut, from which the early settlers came, was familiar to the writer, but in the preparation of this book, he traversed the road beginning at Windham, which they followed to Hartford, and thence through Dutchess and Orange Counties, New York, and over the Delaware River to the Minisinks, and thence across the mountains to their destination.

Much herein contained has been written and published time and time again, and this is true of all the histories, except that of Chapman, which was the first publication. Many interesting stories have necessarily been omitted, because of lack of space, but an effort has been made to include all the incidents, which happened in Kingston Township or with which its inhabitants were connected. With few exceptions, no biographies of those who settled after 1860, are included. The writer is aware of many imperfections, omissions and errors, of which he craves the indulgence of the patient reader.

William Brewster

Kingston, Pa.

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Erratta

On page 70, the 24th should be the 14th.

On page 172, August 30, 1788, should be August 30, 1878.

On page 287, under Incorporation of Boroughs, Edwards should be Edwardsville.

On page 347, under Postmasters April 5, 1857, should be April 5, 1867.

On page 349, Main Street nearly opposite Page, should be Market Street, nearly opposite Page.

At bottom of page 397 piles should read poles.

On page 433, McDermort should be McDermott.

CHAPTER I.

1753—1768

THE SUSQUEHANNA PURCHASE

Conflicting Grants of the English Kings—The Virginia and Plymouth Companies—Land Tenure and Allotment of New England and Pennsylvania, Contrasted—The Title of Connecticut to Wyoming Lands—The Colchester Organization—The Susquehanna Company—The Journeying Committee—Indian Owners, The Six Nations—The Congress at Albany in 1754, and the Purchase of the Wyoming Lands—Fort Stanwix Treaty—Meeting of the Susquehanna Company, December 28, 1768, and Forty Persons, the First Settlers of Kingston Township Authorized to Take Possession of the Susquehanna Purchase.

The history of Kingston properly begins at a meeting of the Susquehanna Company, held at Hartford, Connecticut, December 28, 1768, when it was resolved to send forty settlers to occupy the Wyoming lands by February 1, 1769. Thus was set in motion the tide of emigration from New England to the West, which continuing for more than a hundred years largely populated northern central and western United States. The advance of this great migration was the forty adventurers then sent out by the Susquehanna Company, who were the pioneers of Wyoming Valley, and the first settlers of Kingston Township. This Susquehanna Company may be considered the first great American business enterprise for it acquired a domain greater in extent than the entire colony of Connecticut and of a value almost beyond human calculation. It originated in the town of Windham, located a few miles east of the present city of Willimantic. It was then the shire-town of Windham County and an important center in Connecticut, and it is now almost a deserted village.

It may seem strange to the casual reader that a gigantic business enterprise should have been conceived and developed in Connecticut to purchase and occupy lands which are now a part of Pennsylvania. This strange condition came about because Connecticut claimed a strip of land between the 41st and 42nd degrees of latitude and extending across the Continent to the Pacific Ocean. This claim of course included all of Northern Pennsylvania and the Wyoming Valley, and it was the result of the early and conflicting grants of the English Kings.

In 1606 King James I of England chartered two joint stock companies which were granted the right to colonize that part of North America between the 34th and 45th degrees of latitude. The company having its residence at London was to colonize the Southern part between the 34th and 38th degrees of latitude and is known in history as the Virginia Company. The other, having its residence at Plymouth, had the right to colonize the Northern part between the 41st and 45th degrees of latitude; the intervening territory comprised in the three degrees of latitude between the Northern and Southern companies being left common to the two. Comprised in this intervening territory is most of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Northern Virginia. Under the original charter of 1606, the Virginia Company established the settlement at Jamestown and granted the patent under which the Pilgrims sailed in the Mayflower.

By the stress of weather the Pilgrims, forced north of the Virginia line, were compelled to settle outside their charter limits and thus were driven to the necessity of establishing for themselves and by themselves, the first written constitutional government. By the Compact which they signed in the cabin of the Mayflower, they set aside all existing notions of government and created the first real free democracy. By a move as daring, as the one they made years before, when they defied King and Bishops and created a church of, for, and by themselves; they now severed the sovereign ties of state. But they hardly realized the boldness of the stroke for in the Compact, they affirmed their allegiance to the king. Nevertheless, their freedom was an accomplished fact, and when the Mayflower rounded the bar at Plymouth, she had aboard the freest individuals in the civilized world. And in the group of individuals which formed the Town which they founded, was the germ of the democratic idea, which has so profoundly influenced men and molded society since that time. This is the supreme glory of the Pilgrims.

Closely allied with political power is the allotment of land. And thus we have as the basis of Feudal Government, the Feudal System of land tenures. Ownership, in the land of England, was qualified by the rights of a superior owner in the person of the Sovereign. Sometimes the soil, was held under mesne or underlords, who were themselves tenants of the king. In 1620, the conception of society was that of a divine headship in the person of the king, who was head of the Church, ruler of the people and owner of the land; and had a sort of proprietorship of the souls, the persons and property of his subjects. All this nonsense, the Pilgrims cast aside.

This group of individuals, which they called the town, was the dominant idea of Pilgrim government; and thus we have the Town of Plymouth almost identical, in the beginning, with the Colony of Plymouth. The General Court, of the Colony was the meeting of the freemen of the Town of Plymouth. This system, of town government and allotment of land, begun at Plymouth was fully developed in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

Neither of these colonies granted nor sold any land. They had no land system apart from that of the town. The only jurisdiction over land exercised in these colonies by the General Court, as the legislative authority was then called, was a sort of supervision. This supervision was in the nature of general rules; for the establishment of a town, the manner of allotting lands, the qualifications of free holders, the prescribing of the system of recording land titles, provision for common fields and fences and the punishment of trespass. The free holders of each town met in town meetings and divided the land of the town into house lots, meadow lots and pasture fields; and allotted the same among the proprietors; and also set aside all public lands and provided for the management of the same. Regulations regarding the erection of fences and the management of herds of cattle were enacted at the town meetings. It was the Manor and the Manorial Court of England transplanted to the new world without the lord of the Manor, and with all the authority vested in the free holders of the town.

As late as 1717, the Colony of Connecticut exercised no authority over the purchase of lands from the Indians; and a group of individuals was free to purchase from the natives, forest land, and found a town. Having effected a town organization, they elected representatives who sought admission to the General Assembly of the Colony, and being admitted therein, the status of the town as a part of the colony became complete.

Having briefly detailed the New England system of government and land ownership, it is necessary to contrast it with the system prevailing in the colonies under proprietors, in order that the conflict between Pennsylvania and Connecticut over the Wyoming lands may be understood.

In the Proprietary Governments, of which Pennsylvania was the most important, an entirely different system of government and land tenures prevailed. The King granted to the Proprietors powers which were both territorial and governmental. The great territory of Pennsylvania was granted by the King to William Penn under the same conditions which controlled the ownership, management and inheritance of a private landed estate in England. It was an estate of inheritance, with the rule of primogeniture, and it could be leased, sold or mortgaged. It had many features of the ancient feudal tenures. Manors could be created and the Penns actually divided a large portion of the Wyoming Valley into two great Manors. The statute of "Quia Emptores," which had long prevailed in Eng.and and prohibited the subinfeudation of land; *i. e.*, provided that land could only be held of one lord, the king, was suspended. In Pennsylvania a grant of land was held of William Penn and his heirs and through him, of the Crown. The Proprietors extinguished the Indian title usually by purchase; but the conveyance was not made as in New England to the actual settlers; but to the Proprietors themselves, who either leased or sold the land at an enormous profit. The whole system was speculative and profit seeking.

The actual settler not only underwent the privations and dangers of the frontier, but rendered tribute to an idle and princely proprietor who reveled in the luxuries of London. Coincident with this territorial power was the grant of governmental authority. Thus the colonial proprietor in North America exercised powers, which were fundamentally the same as those of the feudal barons in the Middle Ages. He appointed the governor of the colony, the colonial council, the judges of the Court, prescribed punishments, granted pardons and in general performed the functions of a king. The whole system was monarchical and oppressive and while a General Assembly existed, it usually wasted its efforts in a futile struggle against the avarice and selfishness of the proprietor.

Such a government was necessarily in odium among its own people; and this explains the weakness of the Pennsylvania government, when it came in conflict, in Wyoming Valley, with the individual land owners and free institutions of Connecticut.

It has been observed that the original grant of territory in 1606 to the company residing at Plymouth, was from the forty-first to the forty-fifth degree of latitude. Nothing, however, was done by this company to promote its interest until November 3, 1620, when it was revived and a new charter procured incorporating "The Duke of Lenox and divers other persons by the name of the Council established at Plymouth, in the County of Devon, for the planting, ruling, ordering and governing of New England in America; and to them and their successors, grants all the lands, etc., viz: that aforesaid part of America being in breadth forty degrees Northerly latitude from the equinoctial line to forty-eight degrees of said Northerly latitude, inclusively, and in length, of and within the breadth aforesaid through the main lands from sea to sea, * * * provided always, the said islands or any of the premises intended and meant to be granted were not actually possessed or inhabited by other Christian Prince or State nor within the bounds, limits or territories of that Southern colony heretofore by us granted, to be planted by divers of our loving subjects in the South part. And we do further command and authorize the said Council and their successors or the major, part of them to distribute, convey, assign and set over such particular portions of said land, tenements and hereditaments to such subjects, adventurers and planters as they should think proper."

The authorities of Connecticut claimed that the Council at Plymouth granted to Robert Rich, Earl of Warwick, the territory comprising all that he quit-claimed, March 19, 1631 to Lord Say and Sele, Lord Brook and others and described as follows:

"All that part of New England in America which lies and extends from a river they called Narragansett River, the space of forty leagues upon a straight line near the shore towards the Southwest and by South or West as the Coast lieth towards Virginia, accounting three English miles to the league; and also all and singular the lands and hereditaments whatsoever, lying and being within the lands aforesaid; North and South in latitude and breadth and in length and longitude of and within all the breadth aforesaid, throughout the main lands there, from the Western Ocean to the South Sea."

Some have doubted, that any grant was made to Warwick, no document to that effect ever having been found, and no title ever shown. At any rate, he was in 1631 President of the Council at Plymouth and may have assumed to have had that right. The Narragansett River rises as far north as Worcester, Massachusetts, and therefore this grant known as "The old Patent of Connecticut," comprehended that part of New England between a line drawn due west from Worcester, and the shore of Long Island Sound from Point Judith, a distance of one hundred twenty miles to New York; which point where it joins Connecticut is near the forty-first degree of latitude. It also comprehended, all the land lying between the forty-first degree of latitude and the line drawn at Worcester and extending Westward to the Pacific Ocean. Under this grant, the colony at Saybrook was founded, which in 1644 was sold by George Fenwick, a member of the company, to the Colony of Connecticut. It has been doubted that Fenwick had any right to make this sale.

Even if the title, from the Earl of Warwick through Fenwick, is of doubtful validity, there can be no question about the patent granted, April 20, 1662, by King Charles II, incorporating John Winthrop and others into a body politic by the name of the "Governor and the Company of the English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America," and granting and confirming to them all that part of New England "bounded on the East by Narragansett River, commonly called Narragansett Bay, where the said River falleth into the Sea; and on the North by the line of Massachusetts plantation; and on the South by the Sea; and in longitude as the Massachusetts colony running from East to West, that is to say, from the said Narragansett Bay on the East to the South Sea on the West part."

By this charter, Connecticut was granted a strip of territory bounded on the north by a line nearly coincident with the forty-second degree of latitude, and on the south by the forty-first degree, and from the Narragansett River to the Pacific Ocean.

The forty-first degree of latitude crosses the Delaware River at a point two or three miles above Delaware Water Gap; the North Branch of the Susquehanna just below Bloomsburg; the West Branch at Milton and again near Clearfield; and the Shenango River at New Castle. The forty-second degree of latitude is the southern boundary of New York. Consequently all that part of the present State of Pennsylvania, between the points above given, was comprehended in this ancient grant to Connecticut.

The hunger for land has always possessed the human race and particularly the English people. No sooner had the Pilgrims established themselves at Plymouth, and the Puritans in Massachusetts Bay, than the more restless souls among them sought new homes in the forests of Rhode Island and Connecticut. From the Bay, they marched more than a hundred miles through the wilderness to the Connecticut valley and established Windsor, Hartford and Wethersfield; while some from Plymouth, and the friends of the younger Winthrop founded New London and pushed their settlements up the Thames as far as Norwich. In one hundred years, their rapidly multiplying descendants had taken up all the arable land in the colony. They farmed not only the fertile fields along the Connecticut River, but the rough and stony hills of Windham and Litchfield Counties.

In 1756 the colony of Connecticut had a population of 130,612. The principal business of its people was farming, and it was then believed, that the land would support no greater population. Its towns were small trading and governing centers and there were no cities to swallow up the surplus population of the farms. An outlet must be found for its rapidly growing numbers.

Explorers and missionaries, passing through the Susquehanna River region, had observed the marvelous beauty and remarkable fertility of a valley on its Northern Branch, some twenty miles long, and extending about three miles in breadth from mountain to mountain. Reports, from these missionaries and travelers circulated freely throughout Connecticut and in view of the claim of that colony to western lands, as related above, they excited more than a passing interest, and soon begat a desire upon the part of many adventurous people of the colony to settle there.

This valley was a famous rendezvous of the Indians and had been occupied in historic times by Delawares, Shawnees, Mohegans and other Indian tribes under orders or by permission of the Iroquois or Six Nation Indians, who claimed ownership of the soil and governmental authority over it and all the adjacent regions. In the language of the Iroquois it was called Skehandowana, as written by Count Zinzendorf. Isaac A. Chapman wrote the name "Sgahontawano" and interpreted it to mean the large flats.

It was then also known by another name which has become very familiar and historic in later times. According to the Rev. John G. B. Heckewelder, the famous Moravian missionary, and writer; it was in the language of the Delaware Indians, called "Maugh-wau-wa-me," meaning "Large Plains," and this name by various corruptions became Meehayony, Meheahowming, Woyumoth, Woyumok, Quiwaumuck or Chiwaumuck (by which it was known in Connecticut in 1753), Wajonick, Wyomic, and Wyoming.

Having briefly detailed the claim of Connecticut to Western lands, which embraced the Wyoming region; contrasted the New England system, of government and allotment of land, with that of Pennsylvania; and mentioned the necessity of Connecticut, finding an outlet, for her surplus population; the justification and motive for, and the method of organization of the Susquehanna Company may now be readily understood.

The first recorded movement to settle these western lands was a memorial presented to the Connecticut Legislature in May or June, 1753. Among the memorialists, were the following names, which later became familiar in the Town of Kingston; William Church, John Dorrance, William Gallup, Ezekiel Peirce and Jonathan Pettibone. These memorialists, inhabitants of Farmington, Windham, Canterbury, Plainfield, Voluntown and other towns, petitioned the "Honorable Assembly to quit-claim to them a large quantity of land upon the Susquehanna River at a place called Quiwaumuck, where there is no English inhabitant that lives on said land nor near thereunto."

It is apparent that the agitation of which this is the first evidence, was intense for on the following 18th of July, two hundred and fifty citizens of Connecticut met at Windham and entered into articles of agreement which read as follows:

"Articles of Agreement made and settled between us the subscribers, inhabitants of His Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England, being memorialists to the General Assembly of said Colony at their sessions in May last for the title of said Colony to a certain tract of land lying on Susquehanna River at or near a place called Chiwaumuck, an island in said River, and other subscriber's hereunto is as followeth, viz:

"That, Whereas, we being desirous to enlarge His Majesty's English settlements in North America, and further to spread Christianity, as also to promote our own temporal interest, do hereby each of us covenant and engage for ourselves, and for those we any of us represent by signing for them, each of us to pay to Mr. Joseph Skinner, Jabez Fitch, Esq., Eliphalet Dyer, Esq., John Smith, Esq., Ezekiel Peirce, Esq., Mr. Lemuel Smith and Captain Robert Dixon, (a committee by us nominated to repair to said place at Susquehanna in order to view said tract of land and to purchase of the Nations there inhabiting, their title and interest in said tract of land; and to survey, lay out and secure proper deeds of conveyance of said land, to and for each of us in equal proportion) each one of us Two Spanish milled dollars, before said Committee's going and setting out on said business.

"And on their return upon said Committee's rendering their account of their reasonable charges, avowals, expenses and transactions in said affair and of whatever may by them be expended in purchasing the same, we each of us oblige ourselves, our heirs, etc., to pay each one his equal proportion thereof, of what the same shall surmount the sum before paid; and if the sum advanced as aforesaid shall exceed what may reasonably be expended in said business and affair, said Committee to be accountable to and refund back to each subscriber that shall pay as aforesaid, his equal proportion of what shall remain not expended as aforesaid.

And further we do each of us instruct and order said Committee to set forth on said affair and business on or before the first day of September next, and use their utmost endeavors to purchase, survey, take and receive proper conveyance of abstract of land at or near said place called Chiwaumuck at Susquehanna aforesaid, or some place in that country not heretofore granted, patented or conveyed to any person or persons, corporation or corporations, in opposition to or a lien from the title of his colony—and that the extent thereof, be not less than about twenty miles one way and ten the other, and the money by them expended not to exceed one thousand pounds lawful money.

"And in order for the true performance of the above matter, we have hereunto set and affixed our names; excluding all right, or pretence of right to any benefit or privilege to anything that may be obtained or procured if we fail or omit to pay the two dollars to said Committee before their setting out aforesaid, but the same to be void as to us if our names were not subscribed."

These, their associates, heirs and assigns constituted what is known as the Susquehanna Company. It is to be observed, however, that they were never incorporated, and that these articles of agreement simply contemplated, the payment of individual contributions, for the purpose of paying for the inspecting, surveying and purchasing of land. It is a simple agreement like that usually entered into by individuals who contemplate buying land in common and is hardly elaborate enough to constitute, what the lawyers call, an unincorporated association. It was, however, in strict accordance with the New England method of purchasing land and settling towns.

Chapman says that the intention of the Connecticut people was to found a separate colony. This statement is borne out by the proceedings as hereinafter noted, of the Wyoming Settlers, both prior and subsequent to the Revolution.

The same method was pursued in the founding of Rhode Island, the "Three Towns" on the Connecticut River and the Colony of New London. The intention was not to organize a land company in the usual sense of the term. The original design was to gather together a group of individuals, who would each contribute an equal sum to be used in paying the expenses of inspecting, surveying and purchasing a large tract of land, which was to be subdivided into farms by the usual method of allotment. In other words, the whole scheme as will be seen later, when we examine the Indian deed, was the constitution of a legal tenancy in common, in thousands of acres of land, which upon actual settlement was to be mutually and amicably partitioned, or as they called it allotted among these tenants in common. There was no intention to create a corporate proprietorship in the land, save in that set aside as common land for the use of School and Church. The land was to be held in severalty or sole ownership.

It was the independence of his land tenure, which guaranteed to the New Englander the freedom and dignity of his citizenship. The collective and corporate capacity of New England society had nothing whatever to do with land. They had, a higher sense, a higher ideal of human cooperation, than the mere ownership of property. It was in the organization of the town by these individual owners and settlers of the land that the corporate sense and existence began. The town of which all these individual owners of land, called freeholders, had a sole and equal control, was a corporate entity, organized to regulate social intercourse, provide for public instruction, and promote public worship. In the sense, in which it was organized, the Susquehanna Company had none of the powers and performed none of the functions of an unincorporated association. Had, immediate settlement, and the colony, followed as was intended, it would never have exercised any of the powers, which the conflict with Pennsylvania and subsequent developments, compelled it to perform.

During the same summer, there was a meeting at Colchester, in New London County and an agreement made to purchase land near the Susquehanna or Forks of the Delaware River. This endeavor, soon ended, and the promoters thereof became members of the Susquehanna Company. It is to be presumed, that the leader, or at least one of the leaders in this enterprise was Stephen Gardner, who kept an inn on the shore of Gardner's Lake in the Town of Colchester; and who was soon to become one of the leaders of the Susquehanna Company, and head of its so-called Journeying Committee. He was the father-in-law of John Jenkins, who also resided in the Town of Colchester and who was later a leader of the first forty settlers. Pearce says "In 1753, John Jenkins as surveyor of the Company was sent out to explore the contemplated territory and establish friendly relations with the Indians."

The Journeying Committee, however, sent out by the Susquehanna Company in the fall of 1753, did not include John Jenkins but was composed of Stephen Gardner, Ezekiel Peirce and John Smith; and therefore if Pearce is correct in his statement, John Jenkins probably came to Wyoming as surveyor for the Colchester organization prior to the advent of the representatives of the Susquehanna Company.

The Journeying Committee, Messrs. Gardner, Smith and Peirce started from Connecticut, in the latter part of October, crossed the colony of New York and passed down the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River from Milford to the vicinity of the Water Gap, and there enlisted in their enterprise, among others, Benjamin Shoemaker and Solomon Jennings. They then crossed over the mountains probably by the old warrior's path to Wyoming and thence returned to Connecticut, disposing of shares in the project, as they made their journey to and fro. The visit, of these Eastern men, was very disquieting to the Pennsylvanians, and the first murmur of opposition was a letter written to Governor Hamilton by William Parsons, a lawyer of Easton, and foremost citizen of Northampton County which then embraced nearly all Northeastern Pennsylvania, including Wyoming. He apprised the Governor of the visit of three gentlemen-like men, who produced a writing under a large seal, which they said was the public seal of the Governor of Connecticut. The Indians, also complained to Conrad Weiser, and were much offended by these New England men that "came as spies to Wayomock and made drafts of the land and rivers."

As a result of this commotion in Pennsylvania, Governor Hamilton ordered Conrad Weiser to notify the Six Nations and put them on their guard; and he sent John Shikellimy, Vice Regent at Shamokin, to Onondaga Castle with a message to the Sachems of the Iroquois, desiring that they would enter into a treaty for the sale of more land.

Governor Hamilton also dispatched, with a letter to the Governor of Connecticut, John Armstrong of Carlisle, father of the famous General Armstrong, whose name was so justly execrated at a later time in Wyoming, because of his brutal conduct in the Second Pennamite War.

The then, Governor of Connecticut, was Roger Wolcott, member of that famous family, founded by his grandfather, Henry Wolcott of Galdon Manor, Tolland, England; a family unusually influential in American affairs for more than two and one half centuries. Armstrong visited the Governor at his patriarchal home in the historic town of Windsor. There under the shadow of the ancient elms, in view of the Plymouth Meadows, and the site of the old Trading Post, where Connecticut was born, the aged Governor may have had a prophetic vision of a new Connecticut along the Susquehanna. We learn with unfeigned amusement how this rugged veteran of the Colonial Wars and commander of the English forces in the famous siege of Louisburg, almost beguiled the impetuous Irish envoy into believing, in the justice and expediency of Connecticut's claim. At great length, he described the siege of Louisburg and expatiated on the valorous conduct of the New England troops in the capture of America's Gibraltar. He adroitly and eloquently argued, that even if the Wyoming lands were within the limits of Mr. Penn's domain, Pennsylvania might be glad to have as settlers such a valorous people who would protect its frontiers in time of war; and in a polite way he cast a pertinent fling at the proprietary system of Pennsylvania, when he imputed the prowess of his countrymen to the fact, that they were freeholders and the sons of freeholders.

And we must admire the shrewdness of this old Yankee Governor, who indited in well chosen language, this answer to Governor Hamilton: "There being now no unimproved lands with us, some of our inhabitants learning of the land at Susquehanna and that it was north of the grant to Mr. Penn, are upon a design of making a purchase of the Indians and hoped to obtain a grant of it from the Crown. This appearing to be a design to promote His Majesty's interest, and render the Country more defensible, we were well wishers to it. But Mr. Armstrong (the messenger) informs me that this land is certainly within Mr. Penn's claim. If so I don't suppose that our people have any purpose to quarrel with Pennsylvania. Indeed I don't know the mind of every private man but I never heard our leading men express themselves so inclined."

On January 9, 1754, the Susquehanna Company held a meeting to receive the report of the Journeying Committee. It was then reported that the membership was upwards of four hundred. Stephen Gardner, John Smith, Ezekiel Peirce, Capt. Robert Dixson and Jedidiah Elderkin, Esq., were appointed a committee on membership and it was decided that those admitted should pay four dollars for whole shares and two dollars for half shares. They, then, voted a whole share to and engaged as agent, Timothy Woodbridge, to negotiate with the Indians for the Susquehanna lands. This was an act of great shrewdness and foresight for there was no one better qualified to handle Indian affairs. He was a descendant of Rev. John Eliot, the "Apostle of the Indians," and had long been a teacher in the Indian School at Great Barrington, subsequently removed to Stockbridge, Massachusetts. There at the Mission School he had met and become intimate with Hendrick Peters, "Old King Hendrick" the great chief of the Mohawks. He had been among the Mohawks and Oneidas and as far down the Susquehanna as the famous Indian town of Oghwaga, now the site of Windsor, New York. Mr. Woodbridge was at the time Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Stockbridge and may be presumed to have shared with William Johnson and Conrad Weiser the principal influence over the Indians.

If the claim of Connecticut under her ancient grants was valid, but one step was necessary, to vest the title and possession of the Wyoming region in the Susquehanna Company; and that was purchase from the native proprietors. And Mr. Woodbridge, their agent for that purpose, had to deal with one of the most remarkable people that ever lived.

We are wont to ascribe governmental greatness to the nation that dwelt on the Tiber. We admire the administrative genius and military valor that circumscribed the civilized world. We are astonished at the military highways, which radiated from Rome to the outposts of the Empire; and marvel at the incredible swiftness with which the Roman messengers carried the decrees of the emperors from Spain to Syria. And yet there dwelt in the solitude of the American forests when the Europeans came, a race of dusky warriors, whose genius for governmental organization and military conquest has been one of the marvels of men.

They were not a magnificent people like the Romans, of great learning and vast wealth, but were limited in numbers and intelligence. But savages though they were, when we consider their achievements, they are not to be compared unfavorably with the great conquering races of the world.

The Iroquois by which name they are known, were divided into six nations, who occupied definitely bounded territories extending from the Hudson to the Genesee. The names of these nations were Mohawk, who dwelt nearest the Hudson, then in order of their territories running west, Oneidas, (with the Tuscaroras occupying the southern part of the Oneida territory), Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas. Each of these nations was divided into clans called respectively: Wolf, Bear, Beaver, Turtle, Deer, Snipe, Hawk and Heron. Each nation was in a sense independent. Yet they formed a great federative union, whose governing body, called the Sachems, met in the great "Long House" at Onondaga and ruled a domain with many subject people, extending from the St. Lawrence to the Tennessee, and from the Hudson to the Mississippi. They owned the land, which is now ours and their sway, over the tribes that dwelt in Wyoming Valley was as absolute as that ever exercised by a Roman Emperor.

They dwelt in the beautiful regions around the lakes of northern-central New York; from the Hudson to the Genesee and from Lake Ontario to the Susquehanna. There were never more than 25000 souls among them, but they had subjugated not only the Delawares and Susquehannocks, but the distant Catawbas and the Southern tribes who lived along the Tennessee; and their valiant warriors had vanquished all the alien people at the forks of the Ohio, up the Miami, along the Wabash and as far west as the Illinois. The royal governors of Virginia, New York and Massachusetts, and the lordly proprietors of Maryland and Pennsylvania, regularly sent their agents to Onondaga Castle to treat with them. At the confluence of the Susquehanna, then called Shamokin, (now Sunbury) Shikellimy, the Vice Regent of the Iroquois, ruled over all Pennsylvania, and the subject southern tribes.

From Onondaga Castle, the great warrior paths, like Roman roads, led from the seat of their empire to the most distant Indian Village over which they exercised control. Their great central trail extended from Albany up the Mohawk to Onondaga and thence Westward to Lake Erie; while another great warrior path skirted Lake Ontario and went down the St. Lawrence as far as Montreal.

The Genesee trail intersected the great central path, passed through the beautiful valley of the Genesee and by the most populous villages of the Western Senecas, climbed the divide and wound its way down the Cohocton River to Corning and thence along the Chemung to Tioga. Another great trail ran through the Oneida territory and down the Unadilla River to the Susquehanna and thence to Oghwaga, where it divided, one path leading over the mountain to the vicinity of Binghamton thus cutting out the Great Bend of the Susquehanna; while the other led over the mountains to the head waters of the Lackawanna and thence to its confluence with the Susquehanna. At Tioga (now Athens), the great Southern trail began, which followed the windings of the Susquehanna to the mouth of Towanda Creek where it diverged. A warriors path led up that stream and over the mountains to the West Branch of the Susquehanna. The main trail, however, went to Wyalusing and thence to Wyoming. It crossed the Kingston Flats nearer to the river than the present Wyoming Avenue and passed between the Sister Elms to a point near the ford in the river above Fish's Island. It continued across the upper Plymouth Flats, skirted the Eastern base of Ross Hill, passed the Indian villages at Shawnee and followed the Western bank of the river to Shamokin.

To govern this great territory and hold in allegiance divergent people, required administrative skill of the highest order; and the civil polity of the Iroquois is a manifestation of their astonishing genius. It is the unique construction of their confederation which contained the adhesive qualities which bound them together. Intermarriage, among individuals of the same tribe, was not permitted; and inheritance was not from the father but always from the mother. Thus, if a man of the Hawk clan, married a woman of the Turtle clan and both were Senecas, their children were members of the Turtle clan of the Seneca nation; but if she were an Onondaga, their children were of the Turtle clan of the Onondaga nation. The wisdom of this scheme is apparent, for it insured absolute purity of blood, and a child's right to inheritance could never be questioned as his mother was always known, while his father might be unknown. As the same tribe in each of the nations was believed to have had a common origin, and as absolute purity of blood was insured, the members were all relatives and considered themselves brothers. Thus bound by ties of kinship, every Iroquois had a personal interest in every member of his clan through all the different nations.

The affairs of government were in the hands of the sachems. This office was hereditary, not in the individual, but in the tribe. Thus, the sons of a sachem could never succeed their father as sachem. That office was inherited either by his own brothers; or by his sister's sons, for there was no inheritance through the males. This arrangement insured stability of succession and conservative government and prevented continuance of power in successive generations. The sachem had no motive to strengthen himself and enlarge his power, so that he might transmit it to his son. His only incentive was to govern well. That ambition, might not be destroyed, and the nations blighted by the dead weight of hereditary succession, there was another institution called the chiefs. They were elected because of superior qualities and ability and exercised great influence in the councils of the Nations, and in that of the Confederation. Absolute unanimity, of the sachems, was essential. This was secured by a sort of process of elimination in the Councils of the Nations; and then by compromise or argument in the Grand Council of the Confederation. The Mohawks and the Oneidas each had nine sachems; the Onondagas had fourteen; the Cayugas ten; the Senecas six; and the Tuscaroras none. In each of the nations, these sachems administered civil affairs, and the Great Council at Onondaga composed of these forty eight sachems directed the government of the Confederation.

A digression may here be permitted, and the domestic habits and customs of the Iroquois briefly described. They lived in villages, usually located close to springs of sparkling water, and surrounded by fertile fields. Their houses were built of bark, and in earlier times the type of construction was the famous long house which sheltered several families. Later they built homes much smaller, and usually only of sufficient size to provide accommodation for one family. Before the introduction of iron implements by the white people, the Indians were severely handicapped in their use of wood because of the inefficiency. of their stone tools. With his crude stone axe an Indian might hack down a sapling, but the felling of a large tree was a tedious task. In order to accomplish this, a large fire was built at the butt of the tree and when this had consumed the trunk for some distance, the charred wood was easily removed with the stone axe, and the process repeated until the tree fell. With inadequate instruments, the working of wood, was well nigh impossible and recourse was had by the Indian to the bark of the birch and ash, which could be easily removed. Of this material, he constructed not only his home but his canoe and most of his household utensils.

In building a house, the frame was constructed of poles, the uprights being driven into the ground; and the lateral part of the frame, being lashed to these uprights with thongs or rope made of slippery elm bark. Strips of bark were then placed on the frame, one strip being lapped over the other in the same way as siding is placed on a house. These strips of bark were secured to the frame, by strips or poles which ran up and down, and were then tied to the inner frame. The rafters were covered with bark, in the same manner, and when completed the Iroquois had a fairly comfortable and warm house. In the center of the roof, a hole was left for the escape of the smoke from the fire, which was kindled on the earthen floor of the building. Around the sides a platform was constructed of poles and bark and upon this were spread the furs of animals, making an easy and warm couch or bed.

The principal vegetable foods of the Iroquois were corn, beans, pumpkins and squashes. The corn, when ripe, was gathered by the squaws who performed all the work both of the household and of the fields. The husks were removed from the ears but allowed to remain on the cobs, where broken off. The husks were then tied together, making a bunch of many ears of corn and the corn was stored for winter use by suspending these bunches from the rafters of the house. This corn was prepared for use by shelling it, and then boiling it in water and ashes in an earthen pot. This removed the hulls and it was then eaten either as hominy or ground into meal. The hominy was prepared by boiling the corn and it made a nourishing and appetizing dish. The whites learned this use of corn from the Indians and it was styled by them "hulled corn." Meal was prepared from the hulled corn by pounding it in a wooden mortar. It was sifted and the coarse particles removed in a screen made from the sinews of animals. The Indian squaw mixed and kneaded the meal in a bread tray made of bark, moulded it into a round cake or loaf and placed it in a small earthen vessel. This vessel was placed in a large clay pot partly filled with water and the bread was boiled and steamed after the manner of making New England brown bread. Our forefathers, who learned this use of corn from the Indians usually called their brown bread "Injun Bread." Another method of preserving corn was to pluck it while green, and char or partially roast it on the cob. It was then cut from the cob, and dried in the sun. Sometimes it was simply dried in the sun, without roasting or charring. The whites adopted this method in preparing their dried sweet corn. The Indian for the purpose of making charred or dried corn cultivated a yellow species of corn, and perhaps from this our earliest sweet corn was developed. Charred or dried corn was stored in bark barrels. These were constructed by removing the soft inner bark, of a large tree, which was then sewed together. A bottom made of bark or wood was inserted and sewed in. When complete this was a very useful utensil and lasted for a long time. In it not only corn but beans and dried fruits were stored. Around every Iroquois village was a large apple orchard and the Indians gathered large quantities of fruit and berries, which were preserved by drying. Their principal meat was venison, but they also used large quantities of fish and wild fowl, such as turkeys, geese and ducks. The Iroquois lived in a fertile country of many lakes abounding with fish and their lands were surrounded by the vast forests, and great hunting grounds of Canada and Pennsylvania; consequently the Indian family was well provided for. This material prosperity, in part accounts for the Iroquois' dominance over their less favored brethren. Their household implements were few in number, consisting of earthen pots, bark barrels and bread trays, ladles and a sort of spoon fashioned out of wood, bone needles, stone knives used for cutting meat, and skins, and a few other crude instruments made of bone and flint. The maple tree provided them with sugar. In the spring, these trees were gouged and the sap flowed into a receptacle of bark, through a spile made of alder, driven into the tree. This sap was boiled in earthen pots and made into sugar. When mixed with the charred corn this sugar made a dish, which was much esteemed by the Indians and furnished the chief sustenance of the hunter when alone in the woods. Besides water, their principal beverage was a kind of tea made from the tips of hemlock boughs and sweetened with maple sugar. They also made tea from wild spices and herbs such as peppermint, spearmint, catnip, etc. The apparel of the Indian was chiefly made from the skin of the deer and this dress was very comfortable and warm in the winter. The fur was allowed to remain on the deer skin, and usually blankets and moccasins made of tanned deer skin were beautifully and elaborately decorated. The deer skin for moccasins was tanned in a liquor made of dried deer brains and when sufficiently soaked in this solution, the skin was dried over a slow fire and softened with bears' grease. The Indian canoe made of birch bark was very light, and could easily be carried on the shoulders of two Indian warriors. It could thus be transported around rapids and from one stream to another. The most useful implement was the bow and arrow. In its use the savage became very proficient and little Indian boys were trained in archery. They loved sports and especially games of ball. In these games one tribe of Iroquois contested with another tribe. The ball was covered with deer skin and the bat was constructed much like and resembled a tennis racquet. The Iroquois were great gamblers and at these ball games some of the warriors gambled away their entire possessions. Before the advent of the whites, and the whiskey of the Indian trader, the Iroquois were evidently a contented and prosperous people. But the white man's vices and his liquor debauched them, and the final adherence of the Iroquois to the English during the Revolution wrought the ruin of the Confederation.

The year 1754 was pregnant with ominous signs of the coming contest for possession of the world. Men realized that the Peace of Aix La Chapelle, which in 1748 closed the war of the Austrian Succession, known in America as The Old French

War, was but a truce. In Europe, Prussia, under Frederick the Great was preparing for the dominance of Germany. France spurred on by the memory of her glorious achievements under Richelieu and Louis XIV gathered her strength to finally overthrow the House of Hapsburg and forever silence the pretensions of Great Britain to India and North America. While England, perhaps with prophetic vision, of the final crown of empire calmly prepared for the titanic struggle. Everywhere men seethed with ambition and the lust for power; and nowhere more than in North America, did they pursue their designs with greater skill and persistency. The English colonists, scattered along the Atlantic Coast from Maine to Georgia, were not unmindful of their perilous position and well knew that upon them would fall the brunt of the coming conflict. For years they had observed with keen concern, the subtle and patient Jesuit, carrying to the most remote Indian village, the faith and flag of France; and they now viewed with great apprehensions the succession of French transports bearing arms and soldiers to Quebec. It was the avowed purpose of the French to build a chain of fortresses from the St. Lawrence to the Mississippi and thus hem in, the English, along the sea. Virginia, in order to foil, the possession of the Mississippi Valley by France, organized the Ohio Land Company which established a feeble and short lived settlement at the junction of the Alleghany and Monongahela Rivers. And it was one of the avowed purposes, of the promoters of the Susquehanna Company, to plant a settlement, which would be a barrier to French influence and extend the English frontier.

The most important movements made by the English Colonial authorities was the famous congress, or convention, held at Albany in the summer of 1754. The Six Nations had always been firm in their friendship to the English and had hated and fought the French from the time they first settled along the St. Lawrence, but the magnitude of the French endeavors, and the energy with which they pursued them, had not failed to impress the Indian warriors; and even among the friendly Iroquois, there were many who now leaned to France. The Indian with a sense of his danger and his wrongs, was not slow to divine that his safest course was to choose the stronger side, and within his limited observation, the feeble efforts of the divided English colonies seemed inconsequential when compared with the mighty projects of the French, which were directed from Quebec with relentless energy by a single autocratic mind. The chief purpose of this conference at Albany was to hold council with the Iroquois and renew their fidelity to the English cause. Consequently, the colonies sent some of their strongest men such as Thomas Hutchinson from Massachusetts, Stephen Hopkins from Rhode Island, Roger Wolcott from Connecticut, Col. William Johnson and the Royal Governor, James De Lancy from New York, while the delegation from Pennsylvania was headed by Benjamin Franklin.

Some of those who gathered at Albany had not only the general and patriotic interest in view, but were there to pursue a selfish and sinister purpose. Pennsylvania had named to act as delegates in conjunction with Franklin, John Penn, Richard Peters and Isaac Norris, and there is a just suspicion that some of these were more concerned in the acquisition of Indian land for the Proprietors, than in the promotion of the beneficient scheme for which they had been called together. Likewise the representatives of the Susquehanna Company, Timothy Woodbridge, Cap't. Joseph Kellogg and Col. Ephraim Williams (founder of Williams College) and subsequently killed at the battle of Lake George, were there plentifully supplied with money and with the cold business purpose in view of seducing the Six Nations into the sale of the much coveted Wyoming lands.

Historians, mostly of New England origin, have briefly glossed over the pernicious activities of the Susquehanna Company, agents at Albany. The truth is that both the representatives of Pennsylvania and Connecticut went after these lands with the heartlessness and ruthlessness, which usually accompanies a commercial transaction. In reality, nearly all of the negotiations, by which the Indians were parted from their lands were more thefts than sales. Pennsylvania had constantly in her employment, Conrad Weiser, the most skillful interpreter, and an unusually adroit negotiator who by intrigue and bribery at Albany, persuaded the Indians to sell their southwestern lands. She subsidized John Shikellimy the Vice Regent of the Iroquois at Shamokin into a willing tool and her avaracious Proprietors, in their constant efforts to acquire more land kept the trail hot from Tulpehocken to Onondaga, with the frequent journeys of Conrad Weiser and Andrew Montour. Had this government exercised half the energy in the protection of its frontiers that it did in the repeated efforts to steal Indian lands, the Paxtang murders and the cruelties of the Pennamite Wars would never have occurred. It is significant that the promoter of the Pennsylvania interest at Albany was Rev. Richard Peters, a pious clergyman of the Church of England, and the chief director of Conrad Weiser, John Shikellimy and the bribed Cayuga chief, Gagradoda, who carried out his sinister designs; while the general manager for Connecticut was Deacon Woodbridge, who in his Puritan way was just as zealous in saving Indian souls as he was in stealing their lands. And there is something odious in the hypocrisy of the English religion, when we compare the conduct toward the Indian of the British people (save the Quakers), with that of the gentle Moravians who labored so energetically and unselfishly to improve the Red Man both morally and materially.

Early in the sessions of the convention the question of Pennsylvania's contemplated purchase of the southwestern lands came up. Inquiry was made how far north it was to extend and assurances given, only to the southern boundary of New York. The President decided that as these negotiations for the purchase of land, concerned only one province, no record should be made of them, in the proceedings of the conference. Thereafter, the representatives of both Pennsylvania and the Susquehanna Company conducted their purchases with the Indians privately, and this was considered an advantage to the Connecticut people.

Deacon Woodbridge pursued the object for which he had been hired with a business directness which brought results. He engaged to assist him Col. John H. Lydius, an Indian trader of wide acquaintance among the Six Nations. Sir William Johnson and the Pennsylvanians always claimed that Lydius went about the business with great secrecy and secured the signatures to the deed by making the Indian Chiefs drunk; and that as there was no general council of the sachems the sale was invalid. It was also claimed, that the chiefs were taken one by one to Lydius' house and there plied with liquor, bribed and induced to sign. There is probably a good deal of truth in these assertions; but it is doubtful if Lydius had more recourse to rum and bribery than did the Pennsylvanians, in securing the Indian deed of preemption, under which at a later time they claimed priority of title to the Wyoming lands. In the course of the dispute, it was shown that the consideration money for the purchase by the Susquehanna Company, was counted out to the Indians on the stoop of Lydius' house and taken by them to a near by orchard and divided. Affidavits were also made by the witnesses to the deed averring that the Indians willingly and voluntarily signed.

This deed was in the usual form, naming certain Indian chiefs and sachems as grantors and six hundred ninety four individuals as grantees. No mention was made of the Susquehanna Company in the deed and as heretofore pointed out, it constituted in law, the grantees tenants in common. It was dated July 11, 1754, and the description is as follows:

"Beginning from the 40th degree of North Latitude at Ten miles distance East of Suskahana river and from thence with a North West line Ten miles East of the River, To the 42nd or beginning of the 43rd degree of North Latitude and is To extend West Two Degrees of Longitude one hundred and twenty miles; and from thence South to the beginning of the 42nd degree and from thence East to the aforementioned Bounds, which is ten miles East of Suskahana River—Together with all and every the mines, minerals or ore of what kind soever standing, growing, being, found and to be found upon any part or parcel thereof."

The first grantee named was Hezekiah Huntington, a prominent citizen of Connecticut and among other leading men of that colony named as grantees were William Williams, Oliver Wolcott, Daniel Edwards, Phineas Lyman, George Wyllys, Ezra Styles, Roger Wolcott, Jr., Benedict Arnold (father of the traitor), Eliphalet Dyer, Jedidiah Elderkin and Alexander Wolcott. The consideration named was "Two Thousand pounds of currant money of the province of New York." Of the grantees thirty three were of the Colony of Rhode Island, ten of the Government of Pennsylvania, four of the Province of Massachusetts, eleven of the Province of New York and the remainder of the Colony of Connecticut. There were five hundred thirty four named as whole share grantees and one hundred thirty six named as half share grantees. Old King Hendrick, the greatest chief of the Mohawks, and most prominent Indian of his time, refused to sign the deed, and in a speech in the Convention took the patriotic position that his people would never part with the land at Shamokin and Wyoming, either to Pennsylvania or the people of Connecticut, and that they had appointed John Shikellimy at Shamokin to take care of these lands, and would not suffer the Pennsylvanians or the New Englanders to settle there. Of these Indians who signed the deed there were four Sachems of the Mohawks, two Sachems of the Onondagas, one Chief of the Senecas, one Sachem of the Oneidas, one Chief of the Mohawks, two Chiefs of the Oneidas and one Chief of the Cayugas. Of these, the most prominent were Abraham Peters, brother of King Hendrick and Sachem of the Mohawks; and Scaronage or Scarooyady, an Oneida Chief known as "Half King," who exercised for the Six Nations general jurisdiction of the Western tribes. In all eighteen Indians signed, and it would seem rather a scanty number to pass title to such vast and rich lands in view of the fact that the civil administration of the Confederation was directed by the sachems, who met in Council at Onondaga and numbered some forty eight.

During the French and Indian War, colonization of the American frontier languished and the Susquehanna Company held but two meetings, one in May, 1755, and the other February 25, 1761. At the former meeting, resolutions were adopted empowering a committee to secure the approbation of the General Assembly of Connecticut, for the erecting of a new colony at Susquehanna; and in answer thereto it was resolved in part as follows: "and accordingly hereby manifest their ready acquiescence therein if it should be His Majesty's Royal pleasure to grant said land to said petitioners and thereby erect and settle a new colony in such form and under such regulations as might be consistent with His Royal wisdom." At the meeting held in 1761, Col. Eliphalet Dyer was appointed agent to the Court of Great Britain, to secure the confirmation of title of lands purchased from the Indians. It is, thus apparent, the promoters of the Susquehanna Company were very desirous of obtaining legal confirmation thereof by the colony of Connecticut and by the King of England.

Because of the war and the ravishing of the frontier, all settlement efforts were suspended and but a meager exploration of Wyoming was made. In the autumn following the purchase, Mr. Woodbridge and Robert Dixson made a visit to Wyoming, which aroused the ire of the famous Teedyuscung, Chief of the Delaware Indians, then residing in this Valley. Chapman says, surveyors were sent out in 1755, who would probably have been detained by the Indians but for Teedyuscung; and Pearce is more explicit in stating "again in 1755 John Jenkins and Ezekiel Hyde with their associates, explored more fully the newly purchased territory." Chapman wrote at a time when the early doings of the Susquehanna Company were kept in mind by the older people and notwithstanding the criticisms made by a subsequent writer, there is reason to believe that both his statements and those of Pearce are substantially correct.

The next meeting of the Company was held at Hartford. May 16, 1762, and it was decided to begin settlement, of the Susquehanna purchase, by one hundred of the purchasers who were to be given a tract ten miles square east of the Susquehanna River, above their respective purchases. Among others, Stephen Gardner was appointed on a committee to direct and inspect the settlements. Pursuant to and shortly after this meeting, Connecticut settlers entered Wyoming Valley and encamped at the mouth of the Lackawanna River where they remained a few days, but on demand made by Teedyuscung they withdrew to the Delaware River. At a meeting of the Company held July 27, 1762, the number of settlers was increased to two hundred, the additional one hundred to occupy a ten mile tract on the west side of the Susquehanna.

In August, a company of ninety three men from Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York, under the leadership of Stephen Gardner, John Jenkins and John Smith, joined the sixteen near the mouth of Lackawaxen Creek and the whole body marched over the mountains and down the Lackawanna and erected some huts on Mill Creek, a little beyond the present site of Hollenback Cemetery. In this party were the following: who later became identified with Kingston Township: Thomas Bennet, William Buck, Ezra Dean, John Dorrance, Stephen Gardner, Daniel Gore, Obadiah Gore, Jr., John Jenkins, Ezekiel

Peirce, Benjamin Shoemaker and Parshall Terry. This party, was composed, entirely of men and remained in the valley only ten days, when at the request of a delegation of the Six Nations they withdrew, except a few who remained behind to sow some wheat and gather hay, but even these before the coming of winter, departed for their homes in Connecticut. In May, 1763, some twelve men who had been here the fall before, returned and in June these were followed by many more, so that during the summer at various times some one hundred fifty purchasers were on the ground. Horses, oxen and cows were brought in and some of the flats in what later became Kingston and the upper part of Plymouth, in Wilkes-Barre and Upper Hanover, were planted with corn and grain. Most of the buildings stood a little north of the present light company plant on the bank of Mill Creek.

Evidently unknown to these adventurers an Indian War under Pontiac had broken out and scalping parties were ravishing the frontier. On October 15th, one of these murdering bands under Captain Bull, son of Teedyuscung, leaving behind them a trail of blood and burning cabins in the northern part of Northampton County, swept over the mountains and fell upon the unsuspecting New Englanders. Some twenty persons were killed and a few carried into captivity. The cabins were given to the flames, the settlers fled to the mountains and the valley became a scene of desolation, not to be occupied again by savage or civilized man for years to come.

Believing that the New England settlers had departed sometime before, a small force of soldiers under Maj. Asher Clayton, marched from Fort Augusta to Wyoming for the purpose of destroying the grain left by the New England people and reached here a day or so after the Indian massacre. Upon their return to Fort Augusta they reported having buried the dead who had been most cruelly butchered. They found one woman roasted and with two hinges in her hands supposed to have been put in red hot and several of the men had awls thrust into their eyes and spears, arrows and pitchforks sticking through their bodies.

In January, preceding the massacre, the English government had issued an order to the government of Connecticut to prevent settlement on the Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers until a case stated could be laid before the king. In conformance with this order the Susquehanna Company at a meeting held May 18, 1763, ordered, that no settlement should be made until the case stated was laid before the king and his royal pleasure known. During the same month, a delegation of the Seneca Indians, attended the Connecticut General Assembly and Sayenqueraghta, the great Seneca Chief (who commanded the Indians at the battle of Wyoming in 1778) made an impassioned speech protesting against any encroachment on the Wyoming lands. On June 24th, of the same year, Col. Dyer and others had at Albany, a conference with some of the sachems of the Mohawks and chiefs of the other nations and secured from them a new deed, confirming the one of July 11, 1754. Col. Dyer then proceeded to London, where in conjunction with General Phineas Lyman and Captain Joseph Trumbull, both of Connecticut, he prepared a case stated and laid it before Edward Thurlow, Alexander Wedderburn, Richard Jackson and John Dunning, four eminent English lawyers. Their opinion, was that the charter to Connecticut, having been granted eighteen years before that to William Penn it could not be contended that an effectual grant could be made in America of the land so recently granted to others, but if the land was actually settled under Penn's grant, it would be a matter of considerable doubt, whether the right of occupancy or the title, under which they owned could be impeached. Col. Dyer also presented a petition to the king in council, upon behalf of the Susquehanna and Delaware Companies "for erecting and settling a new colony upon the said purchased lands;" but it appears to never have been acted upon and at a meeting of the company held June 6, 1768, at Windham, Col. Dyer was directed to again proceed to London and secure confirmation of the project.

In October 1768, a great council was convened by Sir William Johnson at Fort Stanwix, now Rome, New York. This was attended by many prominent men of the colonies and some thirty two hundred Indians. A treaty was signed November 5, 1768 fixing the boundary line between the Indians and the whites and running from above Pittsburgh diagonally across Pennsylvania to the mouth of Towanda Creek; thence up the Susquehanna to Tioga Point and from thence eastward to a point a few miles below Hancock, New York; and thence through New York to the source of the Unadilla River. This is the famous Fort Stanwix Treaty line, and all east of it was granted to the King of England. The same day a deed was signed by a sachem of each of the Six Nations granting to Thomas and Richard Penn all lands in their province not theretofore conveyed. This included the lands claimed by the Susquehanna and Delaware Companies. As soon as it became known what had been done at Fort Stanwix, the people of Connecticut became alarmed and determined to occupy the Susquehanna lands. At a largely attended meeting held at Hartford, December 28, 1768, a resolution was passed that "forty persons upwards of the age of twenty one years, proprietors in said purchase, and approved by the committee to be nominated, proceed to enter upon and take possession of said land for and in behalf of said Company, by the first day of February 1769."

CHAPTER II.

1769—1770

THE FIRST FORTY

Assemble at Windham Late in January 1769, and March Across Connecticut, and New York, and Enter Wyoming Valley—Activities of the Penns—The Manor of Sunbury—The "Forty" Arrested and Taken to Easton Jail—David Mead Surveys Kingston Township in September 1769—Eviction of the Yankees—Entry of Lazarus Stewart and the Paxtang Boys in February 1770—Land of Kingston Township Surveyed and Allotted—Biographies of the "First Forty."

During January, 1769, the promoters of the Susquehanna Company were busy enlisting the forty adventurers who were to take possession of the Wyoming lands. At the meeting held on December 28th, it had been voted that five settling townships were to be laid out on the Susquehanna. Of these, the "Forty" were to have the first choice, and the other four townships were to be given to the two hundred settlers who were to follow them in the spring, the land to be allotted to fifty proprietors in each township. It was also provided that the proprietors should enter on the allotted lands, and improve the same for five years after their entry.

A general committee representing the counties of Connecticut, the colony of Rhode Island and the provinces of Massachusetts and New York was appointed consisting among others of the following, who later became settlers of Kingston township: Cap't. Obadiah Gore, John Jenkins, William Buck, Isaac Tripp and Ezra Dean. A directing committee which was "to have charge of the 'first forty' and were voted £200 to be, by them expended in providing supplies and maintenance for the expedition", was composed of Isaac Tripp, Benjamin Follett, John Jenkins, William Buck and Benjamin Shoemaker.

In the latter part of January there assembled at Windham Connecticut, Isaac Tripp, Benjamin Follett, Vine Elderkin, Thomas Dyer, Nathan Denison, Timothy Smith, Jonathan Dean, Peter Harris, Stephen Jenkins, Henry Dow Tripp, Timothy Peirce and perhaps one or two others and they received their final instructions from Col. Eliphalet Dyer and Jedidiah Elderkin, Esq., two of the most prominent lawyers of Eastern Connecticut and perhaps the most active and persistent promoters of the enterprise since its inception in 1753.

The preliminaries arranged the little cavalcade of horsemen, the beginning of that mighty migration which was to subdue and populate the northwestern part of the United States, bade adieu to the crowd gathered in front of Windham Court House and took the Western road. They crossed the Shetucket River below the site of the present city of Willimantic, and gained the winding road, which led them over the snow capped hills to the town of Lebanon. It was the same old Windham road you take to-day, flanked by the stone fences built centuries ago; and passing the cemetery on the hillside where so many of Connecticut's famous sons lie in their last sleep.

This secluded village of Lebanon, a century and a half ago was a focus of the social and political life of the Colony of Connecticut. Here resided the Trumbulls and the Williamses; and a score of other ancient and illustrious families, among them the Masons, Fitches, Brewsters, Wheelocks, Clarks, Robinsons, Metcalfs, Buckinghams, Dolbears and Huntingtons. Around the long common bounded by East Town and West Town Streets, were the principal residences; and on the corner at the intersection of the Colchester road stood the counting house of Jonathan Trumbull and his famous sons, known as the "Cradle of Liberty;" where the affairs of Connecticut were directed during the Revolution. In this building, still standing, Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Samuel and John Adams, Lafayette, Count Rochambeau, Sullivan, Knox, Putnam, John Jay and others counselled with Governor Trumbull and his associates. Just opposite, across West Town Street, stood the brick meeting house of the First Congregational Church, whose pastor was the Rev. Solomon Williams. Across the Colchester road, almost in front of the meeting house stood Moore's Indian School, established by Eleazer Wheelock and by him, removed late in 1769 to Hanover, New Hampshire, where it became the great Dartmouth College.

A few rods away where the Windham road joins that leading to Norwich, and New London, the two together constituting what was known in those days as the New York and Boston Post Road, at its intersection with the Hartford road, stood the old Alden Tavern, which like the Raleigh Tavern at Williamsburg, Virginia was one of the most famous hostelries of Colonial days. There it was that Landlord Alden soundly thrashed the British General Prescott, and in its celebrated tap-room, many distinguished men have gathered to drink of hot Antigua rum or good old Maderia wine, their toasts to the "New Republic." We may well imagine that the post boys loitered at their task, of changing the four horse teams on the Boston mail coach and joined the eager throng in front of the Alden Tavern, which watched expectantly the Windham road that January morning long ago.

The little group of horsemen from Windham which dismounted at the Alden Tavern found there, awaiting their arrival, the following comrades: Cyprian Lothrop, Joshua Hall and Allen Wightman of Lebanon; Stephen Gardner, John Jenkins and Stephen Harding of Colchester, John Comstock of Norwich, and probably Richard Brockway of Lyme. And while we may assume that Jonathan Trumbull (soon to become governor of Connecticut), looked upon the scene from the narrow panes of his old counting room with a discreet but approving eye, his son-in-law, William Williams who was to become immortal by signing the Declaration of Independence, was there; and over the drinks of good old Connecticut applejack, counselled with Stephen Gardner, John Jenkins and the other leaders. And we may also presume, that the Indian boys from the school beyond looked with wondering eyes upon the adventurers, who were setting out to conquer the wilderness and take the land which belonged to their fathers. Rev. Solomon Williams in his mansion across the green, perhaps offered a silent but fervent prayer for the success of the enterprise, in which his distinguished son was so vitally interested.

From Lebanon the party proceeded to Hartford, where they were probably joined by Ezra Belding, Samuel Gaylord, Elias Roberts, Job and Benjamin Yale, Theophilus Westover and perhaps some others. From there they journeyed through Litchfield County to Dutchess County, New York, where the party was increased by Major Simeon Draper, Capt. William Buck, Elijah Buck, Thomas Bennet, Benajah Pendelton and either William or Nathan Walsworth. They then continued their journey across New York to the Delaware river, probably crossing it at Andrew Dingmans and thence continued to Lower Smithfield, now in Monroe County, where the "Forty" was completed by the addition of Benjamin Shoemaker, Sr. and his son, Elijah Shoemaker.

They proceeded from the Delaware through the wild region, now embraced in Pike and Monroe Counties and from the Moosic Mountains gazed on the promised land, probably on the 6th of February, 1769. Before them was the far famed valley, then covered with a growth of oak and pines, save the rich bottom lands which in part had been cleared for tillage by the Indians. The whole region of the five gratuity towns was in their view; nearest, the broken and hilly land of Pittston and beyond the undulating plains of upper Wilkes-Barre, while far to the south could be seen the Hanover Hills and opposite the rolling land of Plymouth. Within the bend of the river was the rich bottom land of Kingston, and this they chose as their prize. We can imagine with what eagerness those adventurers from rough and stony Connecticut seized this grand domain.

The fairest part of the whole Wyoming Valley is the rich bottom land of the West Side, extending from Northampton Street to the outskirts of the present Borough of Wyoming, unbroken by any hill or rolling plain, and bounded by the outward sweep of the majestic river in its course from Monocanock Island to Toby's Eddy. When the "First Forty" settlers gazed from the Moosic Hills upon this rich meadow land, it is no wonder that they chose it as their prize. The judgment, of these pioneers of 1769, is amply vindicated in present times; for nowhere else to-day are more beautiful homes, more pleasant streets, or more contented, happy and progressive people. It may have been the vision of those Eastern adventurers, that this broad expanse, was to be the capital of the "New Connecticut," vast in area but comprised in the original grant to Lord Say and Sele, and extending from the intervening lands of the Dutch to the western ocean. It is hardly probable, however, that they realized the enormous treasure, hidden beneath the surface, which was to endow their descendants with wealth and ease for generations.

However, they did not cross the river, (which was probably impossible at that season of the year) and make an immediate settlement.

Prior to the advent of these Connecticut adventurers the Penns had hired Col. Charles Stewart, a surveyor of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and sent him to Wyoming to lay out two great manors. A warrant dated October 29, 1768 before the consummation of the Fort Stanwix Treaty, had been issued by John Penn to the Surveyor General directing him to lay out a manor on the northwesterly side of the Susquehanna River, containing 20,000 acres, and on December 8th and 9th, Stewart, with the assistance of William Scull deputy surveyor of the province, surveyed as directed, the Manor of Sunbury, which began near the mouth of Abraham's Creek and ran along the west side of the river to near the mouth of Harvey's Creek and extended back for a distance of nearly three miles. This comprised a great part of the later townships of Kingston, Jackson and Plymouth. The Manor of Stoke was laid out on the Wilkes-Barre side of the river. A few days later leases, for some of this land were granted to Stewart and Cap't. Amos Ogden, who had an Indian trading post at Wyoming since 1765.

In 1752 Northampton County had been erected and it comprehended under Pennsylvania the Wyoming region. Its sheriff in 1769 was John Jennings, a son of that Solomon Jennings who was an early member of the Susquehanna Company and who with Edward Marshall was the chief agent of the Proprietors in the odious theft of 1737, known as the "Walking Purchase," by which the Minisink lands were stolen from the Indians. Armed with one of these leases and his authority as high sheriff, Jennings repaired to Wyoming in January, 1769 and reinforced Stewart and Ogden. These men built some cabins and a small block-house at Mill Creek. Immediately upon the arrival of the "Forty", they received a letter from Sheriff Jennings, directed to Isaac Tripp, Benjamin Follett and Vine Elderkin, demanding them to desist from their undertaking and upon these three men repairing to Mill Creek they were arrested and sent to Easton jail, where bail was furnished by William Ledlie, a merchant of that town. After four days imprisonment, they joined their companions who had retired to the Minisinks, which was the home of the Shoemakers and is now Lower Smithfield, Monroe County.

They all returned to the valley about the 1st of March, and erected a few temporary cabins on the east side of the river in the present limits of Pittston City. The condition of the river at that time of the year was probably such that it was impossible for them to cross over and build their cabins on the land which they had chosen. Some little time later, about the 13th of March, they were arrested by Sheriff Jennings. The warrant upon which they were arrested was issued March 13, 1769, by Justice Lewis Gordon of Easton and was directed to the Sheriff of Northampton County. It contained thirty-one names as hereinafter noted. On the way to Easton, eleven escaped and only twenty were arraigned. The twenty were, however, released, bail again being furnished for them by William Ledlie.

Meanwhile in Connecticut, they were preparing to reinforce those who had gone forward and at a meeting of the Susquehanna Company held April 12th, it was voted "that the Committee form the whole number, placed on the land, into one body, joined together in one common interest and settled as compact together, as may be properly fortified without any regard to any particular township or townships, which may be afterward laid out, and also to divide and part out the men into parties proper for the various businesses, husbandry, tillage, labor, fortifying, scowing, hunting and other parts necessary and convenient for the whole." In this resolution is the key to the conduct of affairs at Wyoming for the next two years.

The reinforcement consisting of one hundred and ten men proceeded from Norwich, Connecticut under the command of Major John Durkee to Dingman's Ferry, where they crossed the Delaware, and were joined by some of the "First Forty." On May 12, 1769, they entered the valley and encamped on the east side where they were joined a few days later by one hundred and fifty more. Some twenty cabins were immediately erected and surrounded by a palisade and, when completed, it was christened Fort Durkee. The approximate site on the river common has recently been appropriately marked by a monument. The twenty who had been arraigned at Easton, did not violate their recognizances, by returning to Wyoming with this party. The trial of these men was to have been held at Easton on June 19th. Col. Dyer and Mr. Elderkin were in attendance to defend them, but the case was continued to the September term of court.

The settlers at Fort Durkee began farming operations, some on the lower Wilkes-Barre flats, while others crossed the river and planted the fertile fields of the upper Plymouth and the lower Kingston meadows. About the 22nd of June, Col. Turbutt Francis, with a force of sixty armed men and acting under the authority of the Proprietors of Pennsylvania, appeared before Fort Durkee and demanded its surrender. This armed invasion may be considered the beginning of the conflict known as the First Yankee Pennamite War. Not succeeding in his intimidation of the settlers, Col. Francis in an angry mood withdrew to Fort Augusta.

On August 29, 1769, a petition was prepared and signed at Fort Durkee and addressed to the Connecticut General Assembly, reciting the settlers grievances, and praying that they erect a county on the Susquehanna River. This was signed by some twenty five of the "First Forty;" evidently being the number here at that time. At a meeting of the Susquehanna Company held April 6th at Windham, money was appropriated to pay the expenses of the forty bound over to appear at the court at Easton and counsel was engaged to defend them. Col. Dyer went to Philadelphia and procured the services of Judge Richard Peters as counsel. They were tried, convicted and fined about £60 each. Some made payment, and the others were committed to Easton jail, which was made of logs and would hold at least only about twenty persons. The feeding of so many was a heavy burden on the county and evidently with the connivance of the Northampton County officers, Judge Peters went to the jail and advised his clients to go home.

However, the following notice was published in the Philadelphia newspapers:

"£60 Reward.—Easton, September 25, 1769.

"Whereas on the night of the 24th. instance the following persons made their escape out of the goal, viz: Benjamin Follett, William Buck, Samuel Gaylord, Richard Brockway, Timothy Smith, Timothy Peirce, Ezra Belding, Silas Bingham, Stephen

Harding, Elias Roberts, Rudolph Brink Vanorman and Nathan Denison, being a company from Connecticut who were lately confined and imprisoned for committing a riot at Lackawanock on the East branch of the River Susquehanna, which said escape was effected by the aid and assistance of one Thomas Dyer, who being at liberty had free access to his companions, I, the subscriber, do hereby offer the above reward for all of the above delinquents, or £5 for each of them that shall be taken up and secured in any of His Majesty's goals, within this government."

JOHN JENNINGS, Sheriff."

In September, David Mead, a surveyor and one of the settlers at Fort Durkee, ran the lines of Kingston Township, together with those of Wilkes-Barre, Nanticoke (later called Hanover), Pittston and Plymouth. In the same month there was a scrimmage between the Yankees and a body of armed men under Captain Ogden. On November 11th, Captain Amos Ogden made a sudden attack and captured a number of Yankees including Major Durkee, who was put in irons and sent to the Philadelphia jail.

The next day Sheriff Jennings arrived with a posse of two hundred men and on November 14th, Fort Durkee surrendered, it being agreed that only fourteen of the Yankees were to remain in Wyoming to care for the cattle and crops. But soon thereafter the Pennamites plundered them of their possessions and drove them from the valley.

January 10, 1770, at a meeting of the company, Cap't Zebulon Butler, was added to the committee and he, with Ebenezer Backus was sent on a mission to Hanover Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to enlist the services of Lazarus Stewart and the Paxtang Boys. Some forty of these dreaded rangers were secured and they entered Wyoming Valley February 11, 1770 and quietly dispossessed the few Pennamites remaining here. Capt. Ogden soon after returned and fortified himself and followers in the block house at Mill Creek. Maj. Durkee with a force of Yankees and a stock of provisions and supplies reinforced Stewart and Butler at Fort Durkee on March 20th.

About April 1st, the Yankees attacked the Pennamites at Mill Creek and in the melee one of their number, Baltzer Stager, the first victim of the Pennamite War was killed. On April 9th, the

Yankees erected a block house in Kingston Township on the flats, opposite the mouth of Mill Creek and began to cannonade Ogden's blockhouse with the four pounder cannon which the Pennamites had some time previously brought up from Fort Augusta and which was captured by the Yankees. The fighting continued for some days, during which time Ogden's store houses were burned. On April 28th, Ogden surrendered and the Yankees were soon in undisputed possession.

During the months of May or June, David Mead completed the survey of Kingston Township, laying out at that time the town lots at Forty Fort known as the First Division, the meadow lots, known as the Second Division, and the back lots known as the Third Division.

Upon the surrender of Forty Fort in 1778, the chest of Ezekiel Peirce, the Clerk of Westmoreland was broken open by the Indians and according to Col. Franklin's account, "the Westmoreland records were given up and saved, but all the records of Kingston, containing the survey and the division of the land in the township, with all Peirce's private papers were destroyed." A resurvey was made by the commissioners, acting under the Compromising Act of 1799 and at a meeting of the Proprietors of Kingston, held Spetember 2, 1801, it was "voted that a committee be appointed to make a draft of the town agreeable to the original plan"; and at the meeting of May 15, 1802, a committee was appointed "to assist the State surveyors to ascertain the old boundaries and lines of said Town and the line at the head of each tier of lots in said Town as run by Mr. Woodworth." Again at the meeting of the Town Proprietors held May 30, 1802 it was voted that "the lines and corners as run and marked by Jonathan Woodworth is by this meeting established without a dissenting vote."

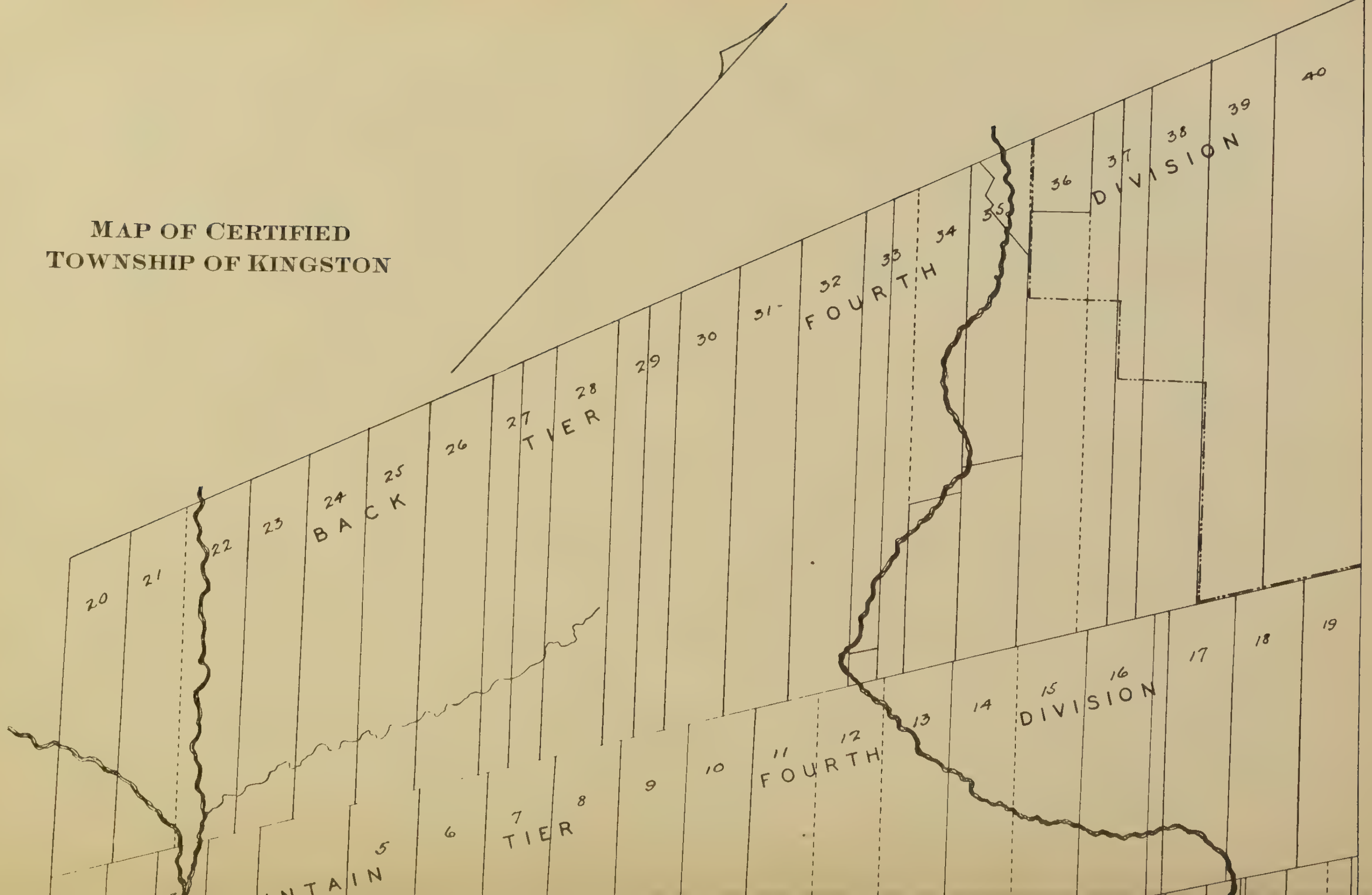
On the following page is a map of the old Certified Township of Kingston, upon which the warrants were issued by the state. This map as certified by the state surveyor under the Compromising Act of 1799, substantially follows the survey made by David Mead in 1769 and 1770, which was followed in the resurvey made by Jonathan Woodworth and accepted by the Proprietors in 1802.

On June 28, 1770, Dr. Andrew Metcalf designating himself as Clerk of the "First Forty", made and certified to President

Durkee a list which he sets forth, "is a true list or roll of the Forty first settlers on the West side of the Eastermost branch of the Susquehanna river." From this list; the names on the warrant issued by Justice Gordon, March 13, 1769; the minutes of the Susquehanna Company; the records in the Court House at Wilkes-Barre; the Westmoreland Probate records and the Westmoreland land records; the evidence taken before the commissioners under the Act of 1799; and the original drawing of the Third Division of Kingston; the following is believed to be a complete and accurate list of the forty adventurers who were the first proprietors and with few exceptions, the first actual settlers of Kingston Township, and the pioneers of Wyoming Valley and Northeastern Pennsylvania, together with so far as is possible of ascertainment, their allotments or original drawings of land in Kingston Township:

ATHERTON, ASAHEL: His name appears on the warrant and also Metcalf's List. He was from the Province of New York and married Amy, daughter of John Jenkins. His right was accepted by his father James Atherton, who lived on what is now the vacant lot south of the Bell Telephone building on the westerly side of Wyoming Avenue. He sold his house lot to Elijah Harris August 11, 1786. June 5, 1798 he sold Zacharias Hartsoff lot No. 8, Fourth Division, containing 208 acres. He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 27; Meadow Lot No. 40; Lot No. 10 Third Division and Lot No. 8 Fourth Division. Asahel Atherton subsequently lived in Plymouth Township. James Atherton's son, Elisha, acquired lots Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10 in the Third Division and part of lot No. 40 in the Second Division and resided in the old homestead south of Division Street. James Atherton, father of Asahel Atherton was one of the settlers in 1763, and died at his residence just south of what is now Division Street in 1798. His other sons were James Jr. and Elisha. James Atherton Jr. had a son Elisha who married Zibia, daughter of David Perkins and resided at the old Atherton place near the Stone Bridge. They had a daughter Sarah who married William Henry and they were the parents of the late Thomas Henry Atherton, Esq. Elisha Atherton married second Caroline Ann Ross Maffet and their only daughter Eliza Ross Atherton was the wife of Hon. Charles A. Miner. James Atherton was born in 1715, died October 28, 1798. His wife Elizabeth

MAP OF CERTIFIED TOWNSHIP OF KINGSTON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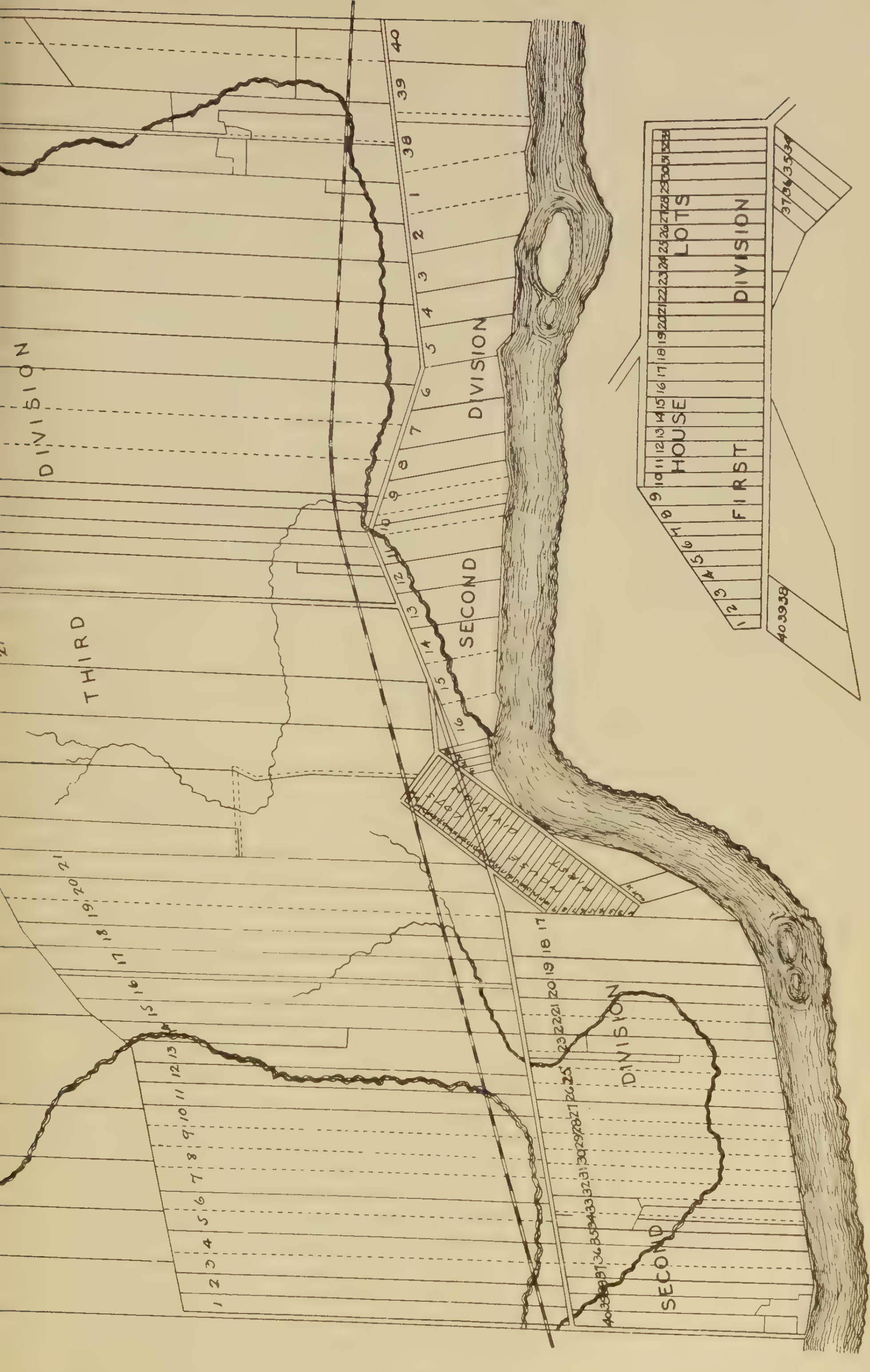

THIRD DIVISION
SECOND DIVISION
SECOND DIVISION
HOUSE LOTS
FIRST DIVISION

born August 1717, died March 25, 1802. James Jr. was born September 19, 1751, died March 5, 1828, married Lydia Washburn born May 1, 1757, died June 20, 1847. He purchased the farm above the stone bridge, but later removed to Delaware County, Ohio. His son Elisha Atherton was born May 7, 1786, died April 2, 1853, married Zibia Perkins born August 21, 1790, died August 3, 1825. Their children were: Sally born October 21, 1814, died July 23, 1895, married William Henry, Thomas F. born December 8, 1816, died April 27, 1870, married Sarah E. Perkins born 1824, died 1886. Elisha son of James Sr. was born February 28, 1765 died April 9, 1818, married Eunice Carver born August 18, 1772 died May 14, 1845. He may have built the old Pringle house which stood at the intersection of Pringle and Chestnut streets in Kingston. His children were: 1. Elizabeth born 1792 died December 24, 1852, 2. Celinda born 1795 died July 2, 1817, 3. Rebecca born February 29, 1796, died May 15, 1827 married David Coray, 4. Anson A. born April 5, 1800 died April 27, 1864 married Sarah Mitchell born July 2, 1805 died January 2, 1831, and their children were: Thomas M born 1827, died October 23, 1891, married Elizabeth J. Gilmore, Mary married Captain Edwin R. Peckens, David C., born March 5, 1834, died April 8, 1852, a daughter married B. F. Gilmore, a daughter married M. E. Jackson, Caroline born December 21, 1840, died January 6, 1904, married Peter V. Wambold born March 19, 1829, died April 23, 1879, George C. born September 1843, died December 14, 1861, Corporal Company H., 52nd Regiment Pa. Volunteers in Civil War, James N., born April 1846 married Delia Morris, 5. James married Nancy Raub; 6. Mehitable; 7. Thomas born July 1809, died April 19, 1830; 8. Mary.

BELDING, EZRA: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's List. He was from Berlin, Hartford County, Connecticut, and he was probably living in Kingston November 1, 1786, as it was given as his residence in a deed which he made on that date to Lawrence Meyrs of Lot No. 11 on upper Plymouth flats (Recorded in D. B. 1, page 67).

In D. B. No. 1, page 305, Luzerne County, there is recorded the deed of Gideon Roberts to Eliakim Roberts of Kingston, dated September 13, 1790, and conveying Meadow Lot No. 11 "which grantor had of Leonard and Jonathan Belding, heirs of

Ezra Belding of Berlin the original proprietor; containing 44 acres."

Ezra Belding was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 9, Meadow Lot No. 11; of Lot No. 1 Third Division and of Lot No. 4 Fourth Division.

At a town meeting held June 24, 1773, he was one of four appointed to run the line between Kingston and Plymouth.

BENNET, THOMAS: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's List. He was from Goshen, N. Y. In Westmoreland Records at page 1002, is recorded a deed by Ezekiel Peirce to Thomas Bennet, dated February 19, 1773, wherein it is set forth that there is "conveyed a settling right in Kingston, it being a right by the Proprietors to said Peirce and which my son, Solomon Bennett did duty on and by agreement with said Peirce I was to have part of."

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 8; Meadow Lot No. 13; Lot No. 8 Third Division and Lot No. 24 Fourth Division.

Thomas Bennet was born in Rhode Island and married Martha Jackson. He removed from Rhode Island to Goshen, New York, where he joined the "First Forty" in February 1769. He lived in Kingston Township, except for the interruptions due to the Indian and Pennamite Wars from 1769 until his death, and was one of the leading actors in the stirring events of that period. In his cabin at Forty Fort, the Articles of Capitulation for the surrender of Forty Fort were drawn and signed by the American and English commanders and the Indian chiefs. Afterwards, with his family he fled to Fort Augusta, but soon returned and he was captured by the Indians. His escape, from the savages is one of the most romantic episodes in the frontier annals of this country, and is related hereafter in full. His children were: 1. Solomon Bennet born in Rhode Island, was in the Battle of Wyoming, but escaped and subsequently removed to Canada; 2. Martha Bennet born in 1763 died in 1851 married Philip Myers 3. Andrew Bennet, son of Thomas Bennet born 1764 died November 20, 1824, married December 18, 1787, Mary Miller born 1759, died October 6, 1804. Their children were: 1. John Bennet born April 25, 1790, died February 10, 1863, who was a surveyor and farmer. John Bennet was a man of great natural ability. He was chief engineer of the

North Branch canal. His only son Charles Bennet born February 28, 1819, died August 12, 1866, was a member of the Luzerne County Bar, and was connected with many financial interests. His widow Sarah and daughter Martha lived in Wilkes-Barre, but they owned the old Bennet farm upon which a considerable portion of Luzerne Borough is now built. John Bennet raised Stephen Buckingham Vaughn born September 15, 1833, died June 26, 1905, who married December 5, 1866, Marian Wallace Preston. Mr. Bennet had married in 1822, Matilda Buckingham, an aunt of Mr. Vaughn, and the latter succeeded to the old Bennet property at the corner of Bennet Street and Wyoming Avenue II. Monroe born July 18, 1791; III. Martha born November 8, 1799, died November 27, 1837; IV. Thomas born December 3, 1800, died 1801.

Andrew Bennet married, second Abigail Kelley born January 13, 1776, and their children were: George, who died at Montoursville, Pa.; Andrew who died at Wyoming, Pa.; Mary, who died at Forty Fort; Mrs. Jane (Bennet) Carpenter; Mrs. Abigail (Bennet) Peck; Mrs. Harriett (Bennett) Chapman; Elizabeth born September 20, 1812, married Henry Polen.

BINGHAM, SILAS: His name appears on the warrant, and also on Metcalf's List, but does not appear on any subsequent list of settlers.

He was one of those, convicted at Easton and one of the eleven who escaped from the jail September 24, 1769.

He was from Windham, Connecticut, where he was probably living February 17. 1774, as it is given as his residence in a deed dated on that day to Ebenezer and Samuel Gray, of one half share in the Susquehanna Company (Recorded in Susquehanna Company B. book at page 141.) He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 32 Third Division and was one of those who laid out Wyoming Avenue.

BROCKWAY, RICHARD: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's list. He was from Lyme, Connecticut, and was living in Kingston in 1789, for on April 2, 1789, Richard Bróckway of Kingston made a deed of Meadow Lot No. 6 containing 33 acres to William Slocum (See D. B. 1, page 184). Zebulon Butler deeded to Richard Brockway July 30, 1772, Meadow Lot No. 6; also back lot No. 26 and House Lot No. 20 (See D. B. 3 page 338). On March 31, 1796, he deeded to Lemuel

Waklee part of lot No. 28, Fourth Division, containing 108 acres. Mr. Brockway removed to Lackawanna Township, Luzerne County, sometime after April 7, 1789, and there he died in 1807, aged about 100 years.

October 22, 1772 he deeded lot No. 26, Third Division to Wm. Buck (See Westmoreland Records page 765). He conveyed house Lot No. 20 August 20, 1773, to Isaac Smith (See Westmoreland Records, page 1132). He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 28, Fourth Division; Lot No. 26, Third Division; House Lot No. 32, and Meadow Lot No. 8.

BUCK, ELIJAH: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's list. He was from Amenia Precinct, Dutchess County, N. Y. and was probably a brother of William Buck. His name does not appear on the Kingston list in 1777. He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 22; of Meadow Lot No. 22; of lot No. 14 Third Division and of lot No. 11 Fourth Division, which was probably drawn by his brother, Asahel Buck. July 5, 1773, Asahel Buck conveyed Meadow lot No. 22 to Noah Pettebone (See Westmoreland Records page 1176).

BUCK, WILLIAM: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's list. He was from Amenia Precinct, Dutchess County, N. Y. He was an original member of the Susquehanna Company and father of Captain Aholiab Buck. In 1787 he was living in Ulster Township where he probably died, for on September 29, 1787, William Buck of Ulster Township made a deed to Lord Butler of Meadow Lot No. 13 bounded by lands of Aholiab Buck, to Main Road, containing 40 acres. He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 6; Meadow Lot No. 34; Lot No. 17 Third Division; Lot No. 23 Fourth Division.

He was the owner by purchase October 22, 1774, of Lot No. 26 Third Division, from Richard Brockway, (See Westmoreland Records Page 765), but he sold it January 12, 1777 to Denison Spaulding (See Westmoreland Records page 794). He sold House Lot No. 6 to Robert McIntyre, April 4, 1775. (Westmoreland Records page 237). He sold April 27, 1772 to Timothy Peirce, Meadow Lot No. 34 (Westmoreland Records, page 445).

William Buck was born in 1723, and was the father of Asahel Buck who was killed by the Indians on Kingston flats, February 23, 1779. He was Lieutenant of the Second Company of the Twenty Fourth Regiment in the Battle of Wyoming. Captain

Aholiab Buck was born about 1751, and married Lucretia, daughter of Amos York and had one daughter Deborah. His widow married Justus Gaylord.

COMSTOCK, JOHN: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's list. He was from Norwich, Connecticut and took a prominent part in the First Pennamite War. He was one of the original proprietors of Newport Township and the father of Kingsley and Robert Comstock who were killed in the battle of 1778. John Comstock was ensign of the First Alarm List Company and as such took part in the battle and in escaping concealed himself behind a fallen log. Soon two warriors jumped upon it, but did not discover him, and when they sprang to the ground brushed aside the bushes which concealed him. He continued to reside in Kingston with the exception of a short time after the Massacre, until early in 1783, when he died. He drew Lot No. 9 in the Third Division, according to deed of Peleg Comstock to James Atherton, recorded in D. B. No. 1, page 297, wherein there was conveyed "Back Lot on Main road, 40 acres, being ½ of Back Lot that was John Comstock's No. 9, butted upon the highway that runs between the Meadow Lots and Back Lots." John Comstock was born May 2, 1739, and married Margaret Vibber.

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 23, Meadow Lot No. 16, Lot No. 9 Third Division and Lot No. 12 Fourth Division.

DAVIS REUBEN: His name appears on the warrant also on Metcalf's List. He was one of those who on September 20, 1770, signed the petition charging the Committee of the "Forty" with misfeasance, and he and Jonathan Dean composed the committee who drew the Third Division July 7, 1770.

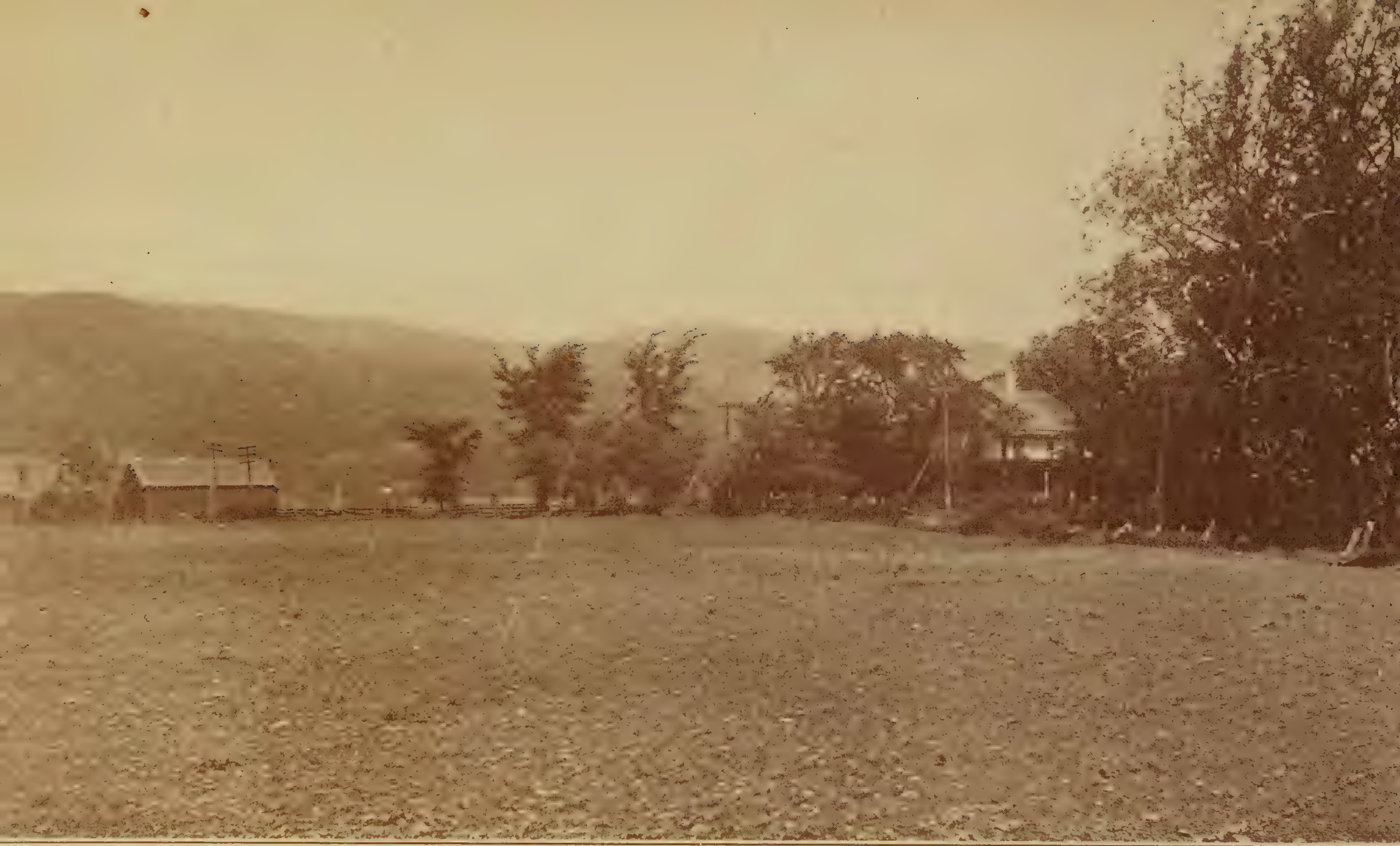
He drew and was the original proprietor of Lot No. 18, Third Division. It is probable that he was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 36, Meadow Lot No. 37; Lot No. 9, Fourth Division, and that Asa Gore succeeded to his right.

DEAN, JONATHAN: His name appears only on Metcalf's List. He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 40; Meadow Lot No. 14 and Lot No. 4, Third Division. Mr. Dean and Reuben Davis drew the Third Division, July 7, 1770. His father Ezra Dean was an early shareholder of the Susquehanna Company and may have been with the settlers in 1763. It is related that he named the town after Kingston, Rhode Island, in honor of his wife who was born there. Ezra Dean was born at Plainfield, Connecticut, November 18, 1718. He probably came to Wyoming in the spring of 1770, but did not permanently reside here. In 1772 he was residing in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, and in 1782 at Cranston in the same state, where he followed the occupation of a blacksmith. He died at Pawtuxet Rhode Island, December 20, 1806, in the eighty-ninth year of his age. His son Jonathan was born at Plainfield, Connecticut July 9, 1741, and joined the "First Forty" at Windham in 1769 and was here until the dispersion of the settlement in the fall. He returned in the spring of 1770, and with Reuben Davis was the committee who drew the Third Division of land July 7, 1770. There is evidence in the early records that he improved Lot No. 4, Third Division before 1774, and as this lot faced the Great Road (Wyoming Avenue, his cabin would have been located between Kingston Corners and Swainbank's store, and the honor of being the first settler in Kingston village is probably his. He did not however stay here for any length of time and maintained his residence in East Greenwich, Rhode Island until 1772 when he removed to West Greenwich in the same state where he married Mary Davis January 4, 1775. He and his father early disposed of their lands here. Jonathan Dean was town clerk and justice of the peace of West Greenwich and resided there until 1800, when he removed to Abington, now in Lackawanna County where he died August 2, 1802. None of the family was identified with Kingston Township, until recent years when its representative has been Professor W. L. Dean of Wyoming Seminary, a great great grandson of Ezra Dean who named the town. Professor Dean first came here in 1873, a little over one hundred years after the advent of his ancestor Jonathan Dean in 1769. He was born at Waverly, Pennsylvania, February 5, 1857, and married Mary, daughter of Philip Goodwin, June 20, 1878. Since 1882 he has been principal of the Wyoming Seminary College of Business.

DENISON, NATHAN: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's List. He was from Windham, Connecticut, where he was born September 17, 1740, the third child and second son of Nathan and Ann Cary Denison. His first American ancestor, William Denison, a native of England, settled in

Massachusetts in 1631. A son of theirs, George Denison returned to England and served as a soldier in the Great Rebellion, being a captain under Oliver Cromwell and was seriously wounded in the decisive battle of Naseby. While in England he married Anne Borodel and returning to America settled at New London in 1651. His son, George Denison, born in 1653, married Mercy Gorham, born in 1659, and their son, Joseph Denison, born in 1683, married Prudence Minor, born in 1669. Their son Nathan, born February 20, 1716, married April 1, 1736 Ann, daughter of Eleazer Cary of Windham, Connecticut, born 1711. In 1800 Nathan Denison removed to Kingston where he died at the home of his son, March 10, 1803. The subject of this sketch joined the "First Forty" at Windham and erected his cabin on the bank of Abraham's Creek, near the stone bridge, on part of Lot No. 25, Third Division, near where in 1790 he erected the large mansion house still standing where he died January 25, 1809. He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 31; Meadow Lot No. 25, Lot No. 35, Third Division and Lot No. 37, Fourth Division.

He married Elizabeth Sill, born November 22, 1750, their's being the first marriage in Wyoming. She died April 27, 1812. He served in the General Assembly of Connecticut; was colonel of the Regiment in 1778; second in command at the Battle of Wyoming, having voluntarily relinquished the command on the day of the battle to Zebulon Butler, who was a colonel of the Continental Army. He surrendered Forty Fort on July 4th and upon behalf of the United States together with Major John Butler, upon behalf of George III, signed the Articles of Capitulation. He was judge of the Probate Court of Westmoreland for many years; was associate judge after the erection of Luzerne County; and succeeded Zebulon Butler as County Lieutenant of Luzerne County in 1791. During the Revolutionary War he was the leader of the Wyoming settlements and for forty years was the most prominent and influential citizen of Kingston Township. He was a man of great ability, prudent and reserved and his public conduct always above reproach. The children of Colonel Denison were: 1. Lazarus, born in 1773, and married February 4, 1802 Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Carpenter, born in 1777. Their children were: Hiram, born 1803 and died August 27, 1868; Mary, born 1804, married November 6, 1832



House at Stone Bridge, Erected by Colonel Nathan Dennison, in 1790, and where he resided and died January 25.,1809.

Chauncey A. Reynolds; Wayman Dwight, born April 21, 1806, died December 3, 1828; Nathan, born 1808, died 1831; Benjamin Carpenter, born 1810, died 1854; Elizabeth Sill, born 1812, married in 1848 Judge William Hancock; Sarah, born March 13, 1814, married Gilbert Reilay; Charles, born January 23, 1818, graduated from Dickinson College in 1839 and was admitted to the Bar of Luzerne County August 13, 1840. In 1862, 1864 and 1866, he was elected to Congress. He was one of the most prominent men of his time and died while a member of Congress June 27, 1867.

2. Elizabeth, born March 7, 1777, married Elijah Shoemaker May 28, 1800 (See under Shoemaker).

3. Mary, born January 2, 1779, married November 25, 1802 to Thomas Patterson and their children were: Nathan, born September 5, 1803, died May 18, 1882; Thomas born February 15, 1806, died August 18, 1874; Elizabeth, born March 17, 1803, married January 27, 1831, D. A. Bowman, died November 28, 1843; Ezekiel M., born May 6, 1810 died February 8, 1891; Mary Ann, born January 22, 1812; Robert Sill born May 22, 1816, died March 28, 1871; Sally born June 27, 1819, died June 14, 1905, married September 22, 1847 to Richard Sharpe born April 10, 1813, died April 21, 1895; John D., born September 23, 1821, died June 6, 1903.

4. Ann, born February 22, 1783, married Daniel Turner and died June 4, 1823

5. John, born June 20, 1787, died July 27, 1840.

6. George, born February 22, 1790, died August 20, 1831. He was admitted to the Luzerne County Bar, April 7, 1813 and was a member of the Legislature in 1815 and 1816. In 1818, Mr. Denison was elected to Congress and was prominent in opposition to the admission of Missouri as a slave state, He was Deputy Attorney General in 1824 and was a member of the legislature at the time of his death. He married May 3, 1816, Caroline Bowman and their children were: Mary, born 1824, died 1852; George B., born 1820, died 1843; Henry Mandeville, born in Kingston July 29, 1822, graduated at Dickinson College in 1840, and Virginia Theological Seminary in 1844. He was rector of Episcopal Churches in Williamsburg, Virginia, Louisville, Kentucky, and Charleston, South Carolina. He married June 16, 1850, Alice, daughter of John Tyler, Presi-

dent of the United States. He died at Charleston, September 28, 1858.

7. Sarah, born 1795, married first Thomas Ferrier and second Stephen Abbott. She died in 1883.

DRAPER, SIMEON: His name appears on the warrant, and also on Metcalf's List. He was from Beekman Precinct, Dutchess County, N. Y. His name appears on the list and on a petition in 1772. But on the Kingston list of settlers in 1776 the name of his son, Amos Draper appears. He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 3 in Third Division as evidenced, by deed of Amos Draper, dated September 20, 1787, (D. B. 9, page 423), wherein he conveyed part of Back Lot No. 3 in the Third Division, a part of the property of his father Simeon Draper, and deed of Benjamin Albro and wife to Lawrence Myers, dated June 1, 1801 and recorded in Deed Book No. 7, page 57, wherein as heirs of Simeon Draper, they conveyed Lot No. 3 in the Third Division, containing 80 acres.

He was known as Major Draper and his name frequently appears in the early records. He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 18; Meadow Lot No. 35; Lot No. 3, Third Division and Lot No. 4, Fourth Division. He died March 21, 1773. (See Westmoreland Records, page 811).

DYER, THOMAS: His name appears on the warrant, and also on Metcalf's List. He was from Windham, Connecticut, where he was born November 22, 1747, the son of Col. Eliphalet Dyer. He was a lieutenant colonel in the Revolutionary War and lived and died at Windham. He never lived for any time in Kingston Township. In the original allotment he drew Meadow Lot No. 12, Second Division, and House Lot No. 4; Lot No. 30, Third Division and No. 32, Fourth Division, containing 400 acres, as evidenced by deed of Thomas Dyer, Sr. to Thomas Dyer, Jr., dated October 5, 1797, of the above lots, recorded in D. B. 5, page 158. Thos. Dyer, Jr. conveyed House Lot No. 12, Second Division to Elijah Shoemaker, August 8, 1801 (See Deed Book 7, page 295). Thos. Dyer, Jr. conveyed to Joseph Swetland, August 8, 1801, D. B. 7, page 296, Lot No. 30 of 3rd Division, containing 176 acres bounded southerly by and belonging to said Swetland and easterly by the Great Road.

ELDERKIN, VINE: His name appears on the warrant and also on Metcalf's List. He was from Windham, Connecticut, where he was born September 11, 1745, son of Jedidiah Elderkin, Esq. He was a lawyer and captain in the Revolutionary War and died at Albany, N. Y. August 5, 1800. His right as one of the "Forty" was accepted by Isaac Warner. He never resided in Kingston for any length of time. In the records of the Susquehanna Company, Liber C, at page 109, there is recorded a deed of land in Plymouth Township by the Committee to Vine Elderkin and it is recited therein that this grant is made pursuant to a vote taken June 2, 1773, and is in compensation for loss of land in Kingston. He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 15, Third Division; of House Lot No. 21; Meadow Lot No. 26; Lot No. 20, Fourth Division. Stephen Fuller succeeded to his right.

FOLLETT, BENJAMIN: His name appears on the warrant and also Metcalf's List. He was from Windham, Connecticut, where he was born March 28, 1715. He was a second lieutenant in the French and Indian War. He was the father of Eliphalet Follett, born January 16, 1741, killed at the Battle of Wyoming and of Frederick Follett, born March 10, 1761, mentioned hereafter. Benjamin Follett died at Kingston, prior to August 13, 1777 for on that date an inventory of his real estate was filed. (See Westmoreland Probate Record Vol. 1).

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 34, Meadow Lot No. 27, probably of Lot No. 39, Third Division; Lot No. 17, Fourth Division, which was drawn by his administrator Frederick Follett.

FRINK, JOSEPH: His name appears on the warrant and also Metcalf's List. At a meeting of the Susquehanna Company, held at Hartford, June 2, 1773, it was voted that "James Forsythe shall be and is hereby restored to his settling right in the Township of Kingston, that belonged to Joseph Fink" (probably Frink). At a meeting May 24, 1774 this settling right was voted to Thomas McClure and was designated as Lot No. 36.

Mr. Frink was from Windham, Connecticut, where he was living April 24, 1773, according to the recital in a deed made on that day, to Thomas Larabee of a share in Susquehanna Company (See Susquehanna Company Records, Liber B., page 73).

He lost his settling right as stated above and it was voted to Thomas McClure who drew House Lot No. 21; Meadow Lot No. 36, Lot No. 32, Third Division, and Lot No. 31, Fourth

Division was drawn on right of Joseph Frink by William Stewart, to whom it passed by deed of James Forsythe who succeeded Frink.

GAYLORD, SAMUEL: His name appears on the warrant and also Metcalf's List. He was probably from Farmington, Conn. His name does not appear on the Settlers Lists after 1770.

He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 28, Third Division and according to one list of Lot No. 27 in the same division. According to another list he drew lot No. 34.

HALL, JOSHUA: His name appears on the warrant and Metcalf's List. He was from Lebanon, Connecticut, according to recital in deed recorded in D. B. 6, page 496, by Hallett Gallup to him, dated February 25, 1800, and of land at Standing Stone. Meadow Lot No. 1 and Lot No. 38, Third Division and probably Lot No. 35, Fourth Division were drawn on his right by John Perkins.

According to another list he drew Meadow Lots 4 and 5.

GARDNER, STEPHEN: His name appears on only Metcalf's List. He was from Colchester, Connecticut, and was a son of Stephen Gardner, who was born at Kingston, R. I. February 24, 1704, and kept an inn at Gardner's Lake in the Town of Colchester and who was a member of the First Journeying Committee. He was born in Colchester, Connecticut March 27, 1735 and died August 1811 and is buried in the old grave yard at Plains. The first Stephen Gardner died in 1776.

He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 37, Third Division.

HARRIS, PETER: His name appears only on Metcalf's List. He was from East Greenwich, R. I. and his right in the First Forty was accepted by Elijah Harris. Either Peter or Elijah Harris was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 15 according to a deed made March 3, 1792, by Elijah Harris to John Hageman (See Luzerne County Deed Book 7, page 128), wherein it is recited that Lot No. 15 in the Town Plot is the same lot which he acquired by the Will of his father Peter Harris and which fell to him in the draught of House Lots.

He was the original proprietor of Meadow Lot No. 17; Lot No. 29, Third Division and Lot No. 1, Fourth Division.

Peter Harris may have lived in Plainfield Connecticut, at the time he came with the "First Forty". He died before 1788 and his wife Mary survived him. His children were: Peter Jr.

who settled in Exeter Township before 1776, Elijah who settled over the Kingston Mountain (See subsequent chapter), Abigail born November 1759, died June 9, 1839, married Gideon Church and succeeded to her father's ownership of the meadow lots now the southern part of Forty Fort Borough.

HARDING, STEPHEN: His name appears on the warrant, and also Metcalf's List. He was from Colchester, Connecticut and was born probably in Warwick, R. I. in 1723. He was married in 1747 to Amy, daughter of Stephen Gardner of Colchester and settled there. He was a brother of Abraham Harding, ancestor of the President, who was in Wyoming at one time, and finally settled in Susquehanna County where he died and is buried. Stephen Harding after the first adventure in 1769 returned to Connecticut and was not here until 1771. In 1773 or 1774 he removed to Exeter Township, of which he was one of the original proprietors. His farm was near what was known as the Harding Settlement along the river in Exeter and there on June 30, 1778 the first Indian attack was made and two of his sons were killed. He was Captain of the 7th Company, 24th Regiment, Connecticut Militia. Captain Harding died in Exeter, October 11, 1789.

According to one list Stephen Harding drew Lot No. 38; and according to another list he drew Lot No. 20, Third Division.

JENKINS, JOHN: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List. He was from Colchester, Connecticut, and was born in East Greenwich, R. I., February 6, 1728. August 1, 1750 he was married to Lydia, daughter of Stephen Gardner, and settled in Colchester. He early joined the Susquehanna Company and it is said was the first surveyor sent out to locate the Wyoming Lands. He drew House Lot No. 14 and probably lived there until about 1773 or 1774 when he removed to Exeter Township and resided near where Fort Jenkins bridge now stands in West Pittston Borough. He was Chief Judge of Westmoreland in 1777 and 1778 and was one of the principal men of the colony. He was expelled by the Pennamites in May, 1784, and died from the exposure in November, 1784 at a place called the Drowned Lands, near Goshen, N. Y. He was the father of the celebrated John Jenkins, who with Colonel Franklin led the Yankees in the last Pennamite War.

He was the original proprietor of Meadow Lot No. 21; and Lot No. 12 of the Third Division.

JENKINS, STEPHEN: His name appears only on Metcalf's List. He was born at East Greenwich, R. I. and was probably a brother of John Jenkins. His name appears on the Settlers List in 1772.

He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 16, Third Division, and one list indicates he was the original proprietor of Meadow Lots Nos. 3 and 4.

JEARUM, ZERUBABEL: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List with a line drawn through it. He was from Farmington, Connecticut, and was living there in 1774. His name appears on the list and petition of 1772, but does not appear thereafter. In the list of 1776 however, appears the name of Asahel Jearum. At a meeting held July 19, 1770 "voted that John Holley be admitted and John Holley be accepted on Zeruble Jearums right in the Forty Township."

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 33; Meadow Lot No. 9; Lot No. 25, Third Division and Lot No. 33, Fourth Division.

According to another list he drew Lot No. 5 in the Third Division and Lots Nos. 8 and 9 of the Second Division.

November 17, 1774, (See Westmoreland Land Records, No. 1, page 138) Zerubabel Jearum of Farmington, Connecticut deeded to Nathan Denison "a house lot and in No. 33, one half of a Meadow Lot, which half part is on the Southwest side of said lot, which is No. 9, and one half part of a back lot in ye Third Division, said half part being and lying on ye Southwest side of said lot, which is No. 25, together with oue half part of the undivided land." This was evidently his allotment as an original proprietor. On the following page is a conveyance by Nathan Denison on the same day to Asahel Jearum of Lot No. 14 in the Third Division, which is recited in the foregoing deed.

LOTHROP, CYPRIAN: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List. He was from Lebanon, Connecticut, and was living there in 1782 as indicated by affidavit made before William Williams. On Metcalf's list it is stated his right was accepted by Palmer Jenkins, and his name does not appear on any subsequent lists, but he is named as one of the original proprietors of Newport in 1773.

According to one list he was the original proprietor of Lot No. 26. He drew and was the original proprietor of lot No. 34 Third Division.

PEIRCE, TIMOTHY: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List. He was from Plainfield, Connecticut, where he was born on June 23, 1747, and he married in 1772, Hannah, daughter of Obadiah Gore. Mr. Peirce was killed in the Battle of Wyoming. His right in the "First Forty" was accepted by his father, Ezekiel Peirce who is hereafter mentioned.

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 17; Meadow Lot No. 10; lot No. 6, Third Division and of lot No. 36, Fourth Division, which was however, drawn after his death.

In 1776 he enlisted in Captain Samuel Ransom's Company. He was promoted lieutenant in 1778 and upon receipt of information of the Indian invasion hurried home to aid in the defense of Wyoming. He was survived by his widow and two daughters, Clarissa and Polly. His widow married Thomas Duane born in 1761, died at Owego, N. Y. October 15, 1821. He was an early resident of Kingston Township and an owner of considerable land. In 1793, he removed to Wilkes-Barre where he kept a store and tavern. Clarissa Peirce married Rev. Alwood White.

PENDLETON, or PEMBLETON, BENAJAH: Nis name appears on the warrant only. He was evidently from Dutchess County, N. Y. His right was surrendered to Nathan Walsworth as evidenced by minutes of the meeting held July 19, 1770.

Nathan Walsworth on his right drew Lot No. 19, Third Division. It is probable he was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 25; Meadow Lot No. 19, Lot No. 3, Fourth Division and that Parshall Terry succeeded to his right.

Another list indicates that Walsworth drew Meadow Lot No. 2 and if so Abel Peirce succeeded to his right.

ROBERTS, ELIAS: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List with a line drawn through it. He was from Farmington, Connecticut and his name appears on the Settlers List of 1776. Elias Roberts died prior to November 26, 1787 for on that date (See Luzerne County D. B. 1 page 475) Gideon Roberts, Amasa Roberts and Eliakim Roberts of Bristol, Hartford County, Connecticut, conveyed to Seth Roberts "all the right of their late honored father Elias Roberts' land laid out and that is not laid out." In the same book at page 476 Seth Roberts conveys the same to Eliakim Roberts and recites that Elias Roberts was of Farmington. On October 29, 1791, Eliakim Roberts conveyed to Elijah Harris, Lot 30 in last tier of lots in said Kingston, supposed to contain about 208 acres.

Elias Roberts was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 16, Lot No. 24, Third Division and Lot No. 30, Fourth Division.

SHOEMAKER, ELIJAH: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List. He was from Lower Smithfield, Northampton County, (now Monroe) Pa. He was the son of Benjamin Shoemaker, Sr. and married Jane, daughter of John McDowell (hereafter mentioned). Mr. Shoemaker was lieutenant of the Kingston Company and while escaping from the battle was slain by a Tory to whom he had surrendered. He was survived by his wife and one son, Elijah, born in Kingston May 20, 1778. On June 18, 1778, Parshall Terry conveyed to Elijah Shoemaker (See Luzerne County D. B. 2, page 78), "land in the parish of Kingston, being Lot No. 21 in the Second Division, containing 300 acres. Bounded East by the Highway, North by land belonging to Samuel Cummings, West by the undivided land and Southerly by land belonging to Elijah Shoemaker."

He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 36, Third Division. Elijah Shoemaker Jr. was born May 20, 1778, and died July 13, 1829. He was an early sheriff of Luzerne County. He married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Colonel Denison and their children were:

1. Elizabeth, married August 14, 1823 John Donley; and second Dr. Spence. She died in 1884.

2. Charles D. born July 9, 1802, graduated at Yale in 1824. He was Prothonotary, Clerk of the Courts, and Register and Recorder of Luzerne County, and in 1830 Associate Judge. He died August 1, 1861. Charles D. Shoemaker, married first October 24, 1825, Mary E. Denison, who died August 1, 1831 and their children were: Austin D., born August 1826, Martha Ann born December 14, 1828, died July 1, 1844. His second wife, whom he married May 18, 1835, was Stella Mercer Sprigg, born August 25, 1799, died November 3, 1875. Their children were: Robert C., born April 14, 1836, married Helen Lea

Lonsdale; Frederick M., born October 19, 1837, married Caroline Shoemaker; William N., born June 20, 1840, served in the Civil War, and married Ella Hunt; Frank L., born October 30, 1842, captain 4th U. S. Cavalry.

3. Jane, married Hon. John Passmore of Rome, Pa., and died October 8, 1868.

4. Caroline, married Dr. Levi Ives of New Haven, Conn.

5. Nathan, died July 3, 1835.

6. George, born March 27, 1810, died October 6, 1849, married January 14, 1835, Rebecca Jones.

7. Robert McDowell, born February 12, 1812, died November 22, 1886.

8. Elijah, born March 5, 1808, died January 13, 1863.

9. Lazarus Denison, born November 5, 1819, graduated at Yale in 1840, and was admitted to the Luzerne County Bar in 1842. He was one of the wealthy and most prominent men of Luzerne County. He married in 1848, Esther W. Wadhams, who died August 4, 1889. He died September 9, 1893.

SHOEMAKER, BENJAMIN, SR.: His name appears only on Metcalf's List. He was from Lower Smithfield Township, Pennsylvania. He married Elizabeth De Pui, daughter of Nicholas DePui, who lived in the old stone house at Shawnee on the Delaware. He was the first Pennsylvania member of the Susquehanna Company in 1753. He never permanently resided at Wyoming and died in 1775. Elijah Shoemaker was his son.

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 28; Meadow Lot No. 15; Lot No. 40, Third Division and Lot No. 17, Fourth Division.

SMITH, OLIVER: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List, and he was one of those indicted by the Northampton County Court March 20, 1770.

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 2, Meadow Lot No. 24; Lot No. 33, Third Division, and Lot No. 22, Fourth Division, which passed into the possession of Isaac Underwood.

SMITH, TIMOTHY: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List. He was from Voluntown, Connecticut, where he was born April 28, 1740, the son of John Smith of the First Journeying Committee. He drew House Lot No. 2, Lots No. 17 and 18, Second Division; Lot No. 21, Third Division, and Lot No. 7, Fourth Division, and lived in 1772 on the house lot a few rods south of Forty Fort. He was one of the leaders of the settlement and for a number of years acted as constable. At a meeting of the settlers held at Wilkes-Barre July 8, 1773, "Voted that Timothy Smith be chosen by this Company to be their Sheriff." Mr. Smith died at his home in Kingston in 1776, and left one son, Benjamin Smith.

TRIPP, ISAAC: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List. He was from Warwick, R. I. and was one of the early leaders being a member of the Directing Committee of the "First Forty" and was representative for Westmoreland in the Connecticut Assembly. Mr. Tripp was one of the original proprietors of Exeter and removed to Capouse Meadows in 1771. He was killed by the Indians December 16, 1778.

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 7; Meadow Lot No. 39; Lot No. 2, Third Division; Lot No. 16, Fourth Division, drawn by Wm. Gallup, who purchased his entire settling right January 19, 1774 Isaac Tripp, eldest son of Isaac Tripp of the "First Forty", and his wife Sarah Dow Tripp was born in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, July 24, 1753, died May 22, 1807, married Martha Wall. They had a son Isaac born January 27, 1779, died at Providence May 30, 1830, married Catherine La Frantz who died October 6, 1836. Their sons Isaac and Holden Tripp became residents of Kingston Township. Isaac born at Providence, Pennsylvania September 7, 1817 moved to the Helme farm now in Kingston Borough in 1854 and in 1859 purchased the large farm now in Forty Fort where he died. He married February 17, 1840, Margaret daughter of Jacob I. Shoemaker, and married second December 28, 1861, Hannah Rogers. Holden Tripp, born October 15, 1824 died December 30, 1870, conducted for some years the tavern at Wyoming, later known as the Pollock House.

TRIPP, HENRY DOW: His name appears only on Metcalf's List but has a line drawn through it. He was from Warwick, R. I. and son of Isaac Tripp. At a meeting of the Susquehanna Company held at Hartford, June 6, 1770, he was excluded from the number of the said Forty and any right in the said Township which shall be laid out for them. He early removed to New York City where he died.

He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 31, Third Division and it is probable, that he was the original proprietor of Lot No. 3, Second Division and Lot No. 5, Fourth Division, and that Elijah Swift succeeded to his right.

VANORMAN, RUDOLPH BRINK: His name appears on the warrant only. He is also on the List of Settlers of 1771, and he was one of those convicted at Easton who broke jail and escaped in the night of September 24, 1769.

WALSWORTH, NATHAN: His name appears only on Metcalf's List, and it is stated therein that his right was accepted by Joseph Walter. He was from Beekman Precinct, N. Y.

At a meeting held at Wilkes-Barre July 19, 1770, it was voted, "that Nathan Walsworth on Benajah Pendletons right be precluded any right in said Township." On this evidence Nathan Walsworth has been excluded from the original Forty and William Walsworth substituted in his place because in November, 1769 William was one of the fourteen Yankees left in possession of property when the Yankees were driven out by the Pennamites. The better presumption however, is that Nathan surrendered his right to Joseph Walter, and accepted Pendelton's right before July, 1770.

WESTOVER, THEOPHILUS: His name appears on Metcalf's List and in the List of Settlers in 1770. He was from West Stockbridge, Berkshire County, Mass. as is stated in a deed of Theophilus Westover to Elisha Mighells of land in Huntington Township, dated April 14, 1776, and recorded in Luzerne County D. B. 2, page 361).

He was the original proprietor of Lot No. 23, Third Division.

WIGHTMAN, ALLEN: His name appears on the warrant and on Metcalf's List. He was from Lebanon, Connecticut, where he was living in 1782, according to an affidavit made before William Williams. On Metcalf's List it says his right was accepted by Douglas Woodworth and at a meeting held July 19, 1770, it was voted that his right be vacated and forfeited.

According to one list Allen Whitmore (probably Wightman) drew Lot No. 2. He was the original proprietor and drew Lot No. 11 in the Third Division. It is probable that he was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 11; Lot No. 25, Fourth Division, and that John McDowell succeeded to his right.

YALE, BENJAMIN: He was from Wallingford, Connecticut, and his name does not appear on the warrant or Metcalf's list. His right to the honor of being one of the First Forty is based on the following evidence. At a meeting of the Susquehanna Company held at Hartford, June 6, 1770, it was voted "that Ozias Yale on Benjamin Yales right be of the number of the First Forty and entitled to his right in the Township laid out to them", but at a meeting held July 19, 1770, it was voted that he was not entitled to any right. By deed dated October 17, 1778, recorded in Luzerne County D. B. 1, page 258, Benjamin Yale of Wallingford, Connecticut, conveyed to Ozias Yale, "all my right of land in Kingston, lately accepted by Ozias Yale, By deed dated December 18, 1789, recorded in Luzerne County D. B. 1, page 259, the administrator of Ozias Yale conveyed "to Lord Butler ¼ of Meadow Lot No. 23, containing about 30 acres, being a part of a settling right of Benjamin Yale." By deed dated October 14, 1789, the administrators of Ozias Yale conveyed "to Benjamin Carpenter ¼ of Lot No. 37 in the Third Division, containing 181 acres, being a settling right of his father, Benjamin Yale."

He was the original proprietor of House Lot No. 35 of Meadow Lot No. 23; lot No. 34, Fourth Division, and lot No. 37 Third Division.

YALE, JOB: His name appears on the warrant only. He was from Wallingford, Connecticut, that being given as his residence in deed for land in Plymouth to Luke Swetland (See Luzerne County D. B. 2, page 11). At a meeting at Hartford held June 6, 1770, "voted that John Jolly on Job Yale's right be of the number of the First Forty and entitled to his right in the Township laid out to these;" but it was voted July 19, 1770 that he was not entitled to any right.

The name of Job Yale does not appear on any list of drawings but the name of Stephen Yale is on the list of those who drew in 1770 and he drew House Lot No. 12, Meadow Lot No. 31, Lot No. 36, Third Division and Lot No. 27, Fourth Division, presumably on Job Yale's right.

CHAPTER III.

1770—1771

THE FIRST YANKEE-PENNAMITE WAR

LAND ALLOTMENT—NAMING OF THE TOWN BY EZRA DEAN—CHARGES AGAINST THE COMMITTEE OF THE FIRST FORTY—INVASION UNDER CAPTAIN OGDEN—RECAPTURE OF THE FORT BY THE PAXTANG BOYS IN DECEMBER—ERECTION OF FORT WYOMING BY THE PENNAMITES IN JANUARY 1771—NATHAN OGDEN KILLED AND FLIGHT OF LAZARUS STEWART—INVESTMENT OF FORT WYOMING—ESCAPE OF CAPTAIN OGDEN—END OF THE FIRST YANKEE-PENNAMITE WAR—LAZARUS STEWART.

On July 7, 1770, the allotment of Kingston lands was made to the "First Forty" adventurers. These lands were distributed, by drawing from a hat, a slip of paper containing the number of one of the lots, which number, when announced and recorded in the Town Book, constituted the drawers muniment of title. The First Division, or town lots at Forty Fort, contained forty lots, and by reference to the map, it will be seen that the Great Road (Wyoming Avenue) did not run through the town plot, but followed a street, laid out across the westerly side of the plot, and extending as far north as the present right-of-way of the Lackawanna Railroad; where it joined with the street running along the northerly side of Lot No. 33 its entire length. Intersecting this latter street, was a continuation of the Great Road; and another street running the entire length of the easterly side of the main plot. It will be noted, that about midway in the course of this street, it followed for some distance the brow of the high bank of the river, at the sharp bend just below the mouth of Abraham's Creek, and it divided lots Nos. 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 40 and a plot of common ground containing 20.60 acres, from the main plot. A considerable part of this town plot is now embraced in Forty Fort Cemetery.

The Second Division, or Meadow Lots, extended from the river to the Great Road, and is the fertile bottom land known as the Upper and Lower Kingston Flats. Some portions of this were cleared when the whites entered the valley, and it had long been used as the Indian corn land. No. 1 of the lots, is in the Borough of Wyoming, a little north of Monocanock Island and lot No. 40 abuts the Plymouth Township line.

The Third Division, then known as the Great Back Lots, is the most important part of Kingston Township, and was drawn by a committee composed of Reuben Davis and Jonathan Dean. It was in the main, the site of the great farms, which lined Wyoming Avenue, fifty years ago; and upon it are located to a great extent, the teeming towns into which the old township has been divided. The lot numbers ran northward from the Plymouth Township line; Lot No. 37 abutting the Exeter line, and lots 38, 39 and 40 of this division lying between the avenue and the river. The land over the mountain comprised in the Mountain Tier of the Fourth Division and the Back Tier of the Fourth Division remained undivided until 1787; one fortieth part of the whole, being vested in each original proprietor, his heirs, and assigns. In a subsequent chapter is set forth the successive owners of all these lots, beginning with the original proprietors.

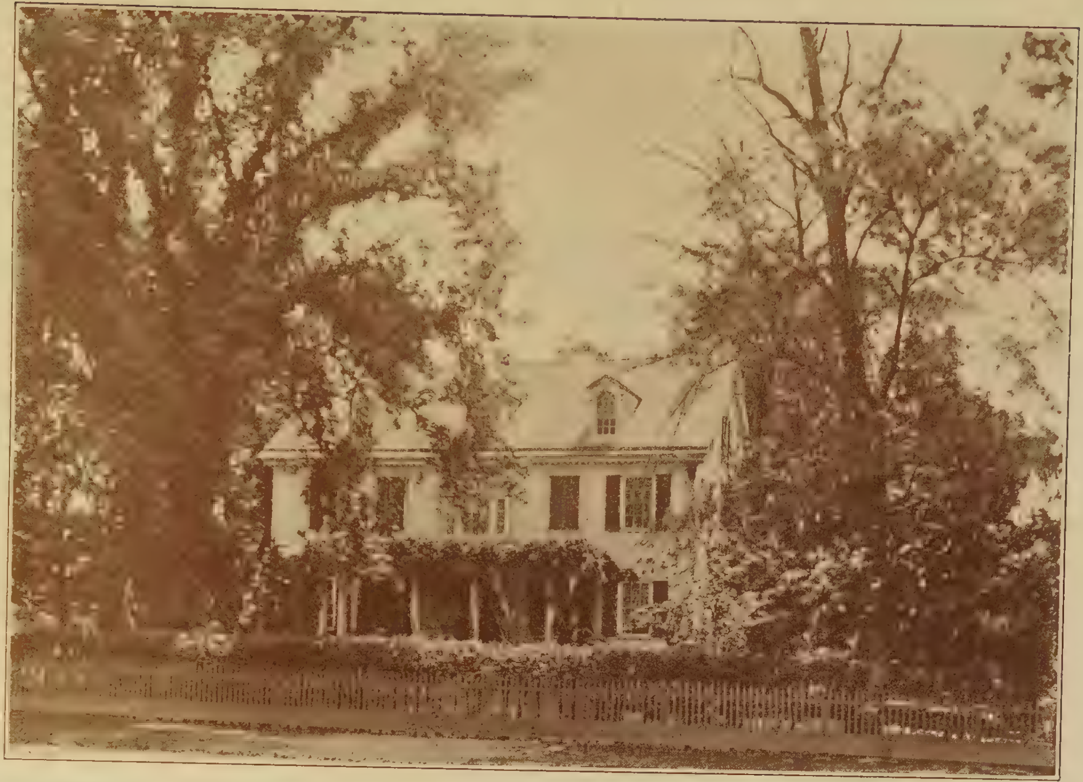
From the first advent in 1769, this was known as the "Forty Township," and by some it was so called for years subsequent to its change of name. According to Stewart Pearce's account this change of name was thus brought about: "Among the forty settlers who entered Wyoming Valley in 1769 under the auspices of the Susquehanna Company, was Mr. Ezra Dean" (Note: this is a mistake, it was his son, Jonathan Dean, but Ezra Dean came soon afterward and was therefore here in the summer of 1770) "whose wife was a native of Kingston, Rhode Island. After the several tracts of land, had been assigned by lot, and the party was seated under a tree on the flats, Mr. Dean proposed to furnish a quart of good Connecticut whiskey, for the privilege of naming the town. The proposal was accepted, and in compliment to his better half, he gave it the name of Kingston. Whereupon, each of the company, one after another, repeated Kingstown and then moistened his mouth with a little whiskey." However, the first written use of the name Kingstown, that has yet been discovered was made in the minutes of a meeting of the settlers held Tuesday, July 3, 1770.

The work of allotting the land, and naming the town having been accomplished, the settlers entered eagerly, into the work of improving their farms. A number of cabins were erected on the town plot, and soon occupied by families; so that during the summer of 1770 there was an occupancy of the allotted land, and while it is probable, that the individual farms actually contained no habitations, there was a considerable population gathered on the town plot at Forty Fort. Miner says, "Settlements commenced on the west side of the River were prosecuted with spirit. Old Forty Fort, so celebrated in the future history was begun." A considerable acreage was sown to winter grain, and the prospects of a bountiful harvest of corn, and incoming emigrants, from Connecticut seemingly, assured the success of the colony.

Yet, as in all human associations, suspicion, envy, and speculation, were manifest, so that at Wyoming in the fall of 1770 there was discord among the "Forty." According to Metcalf's list the Committee of the "Forty", on June 28, 1770, was composed of Benjamin Shoemaker, Stephen Gardner, John Jenkins, Vine Elderkin, William Buck, Isaac Tripp, Benjamin Follett, Thomas Dyer and Nathaniel Wales. Against the Committee, or some of them, serious charges were made. In a petition, signed on September 20th, by Richard Brockway, Samuel Gaylord, Oliver Smith, Asahel Atherton, Elias Roberts, Thomas Bennet, Elijah Buck, Elijah Harris, Peter Harris, Ezra Belding and Reuben Davis, it was set forth that "They were entitled to the sum of £5. bounty, given by said Company to each of the Forty first settlers. That the Committee, appointed to regulate and manage the affairs of said settlement, was to receive and pay, to each of said forty, the said bounty money, and did receive the same for that purpose, but until this time have neglected and refused to pay the same to us, the subscribers, or in any manner to settle the same; although we have repeatedly requested them to do the same, and whereas, there was more than forty shillings, granted to bear the expenses of some of us, that was bound over to Easton Court, and paid to the aforesaid Committee, which money hath never been paid to those of us for whose use it was granted; we have reason to believe that some of the Committee of said Forty have embezzled the Company's money, entrusted with them, and converted the same to their own use, and we have sufficient evidence and can fully prove, that some, of the aforesaid Committee, have admitted sundry persons, into said number of forty settlers on condition, that they did not require the bounty of £5 granted, and would permit said Committee to retain the same in their hands, and did not admit them without; and that the Committee have required, payments of money, from some men for the privilege of being admitted as settlers."

These are serious charges and if true, denote that in the good old days long ago, the profitable accomplishment, of public grafting, was practiced with skill and assiduity. How much of politics, and how much of truth, were contained in these averments, the records do not disclose, probably, because the contentious settlers, were a few days later confronted, by a not less dangerous, if less insidious foe, than cankerous graft, for on September 22nd, the Pennamites, under the valorous Ogden descended, from the mountains, and cast the shadow of gloom over the quiet settlement.

During the summer of 1770, the success of the Yankee settlement at Wyoming, with its constant augmentation by recruits from Connecticut, was viewed with alarm and dismay by the Pennsylvanians, and the Grand Jury of Northampton county, in September, made a presentment, charging divers persons at Wyoming with riot and disturbance of the peace. Whereupon the Honorable George Taylor of Easton (later a signer of the Declaration of Independence) and judge of the court, issued, a bench warrant charging those, named in the presentment, and directed to Peter Kachlein, High Sheriff of the county; who gathered about him as lieutenants, Nathan and Amos Ogden, Alexander Patterson, Captain Thomas Craig, and Captain John Dick. They marshalled a force of one hundred and forty armed men, which left Fort Allen on September 19th. At that time this valley was accessible by three paths. The old Warriors Path by the way of Fort Allen, which entered the valley a mile below Solomon's Creek in Hanover Township; the path from the Yankee settlement at Coshutunk on the Delaware to Capouse Meadows on the Lackawanna; and the other from Easton, through the Wind Gap, on approximately, the line of the later Wilkes-Barre and Easton turnpike. Before this, all the military invasions had been by this latter path.



The Shoemaker Residence on Wyoming Avenue, Forty Fort. The original Elijah Shoemaker house stood some distance North of this site.

Charles Miner has graphically described, this Pennamite invasion in the following dramatic way: "Aware of this fact, with far more tact than was displayed by his adversaries, Captain Ogden took the old Warrior Path, marched with celerity and secrecy, and on the 21st of September, encamped on the head waters of Solomon's Creek; kindling no fire, creating no smoke, giving no alarm. Early the next morning, the gallant leader, took a position, from which, with his telescope, he could bring the greater part of the valley under his eye. All was quiet. The settlers were unconcernedly engaged in their usual occupations. The husbandmen repaired, each to his own field, with his hands. The population was thus divided, into little parties of from three to six, through the flats and along the meadows. Ready to conceive, and prompt to execute, this most able commander instantly divided his force, consisting of one hundred and forty men, into detachments of ten each, under an approved leader, and directed them to hasten noiselessly and secretly, to the fields, and seize upon the laborers. The plan succeeded, and a considerable portion of the settlement fell into his power, and were immediately sent to Easton Jail, while the remainder fled for refuge to Fort Durkee.

Captain Ogden withdrew to his bivouac, but in a way that left no suspicion that he had not entered by the usual route. The night was one, of unexampled gloom and confusion in Fort Durkee. The position and number of invaders, were unknown, but it was presumed to be powerful, for it could not be supposed that the enemy was unapprised of the accession of numbers, who had emigrated during the summer from Connecticut; or that they would attempt, to dislodge them, without adequate preparation. A large number of their men, the Yankees knew were made prisoners, and immediate assistance was deemed necessary. Four men were therefore selected to carry tidings of their disaster to the friendly settlement at Coshutunk and solicit all the forces in their power to muster. A step so probable, the Yankees, imagined the enemy would not fail to conceive and counteract. Taking it for granted, that the passes by the usual Minisink road, and the generally traveled central highway would be guarded, the Yankee messengers as directed, sought to evade the vigilance of the foe, by taking the much neglected Warriors Path. Scarcely had thev ascended the mountain, when they found themselves prisoners in the presence of Captain Ogden. The confused state of Fort Durkee was no sooner learned from the reluctant captives, than with a promptitude, that would have done honor to Bonaparte, in his early Italian campaign, Captain Ogden, put his men in motion. He stormed the Fort, with such an impetuous rush, that Captain Craig, who led the van, gave the first alarm by springing into the midst of the astonished multitude. Several lives were lost, and Captain Butler was only saved from a bayonet aimed at his breast, by the noble humanity and timely interposition of Craig." It is hardly probable that any lives were lost, although a number on both sides were injured.

Early the next morning Captain Ogden crossed the river with his force and marched up the old road which followed the Warriors Path, across the flats to Kingston Village, now Forty Fort, surrounded the settlement and demanded its surrender. This was complied with, by the Committee on the part of the settlers and only seventeen, together with their families were permitted to remain, the other settlers either being imprisoned or driven off and plundered of their possessions. A force of eighteen Pennamites was left to guard the valley.

About 3 o'clock in the morning of December 18, 1770 the Fort, now in possession of the Pennamites, was entered by a detachment of the Paxtang boys, under the command of Lazarus Stewart, and the little garrison immediately surrendered.

On January 18, 1771, the Sheriff of Northampton County, at the head of a posse comitatus, consisting of one hundred men and assisted by Charles Stewart and Amos Ogden, entered the valley and began the erection of Fort Wyoming, on the river common near the present Northampton Street. Two days later, either in an attack by the Pennamites, on Fort Durkee, or during a parley between the parties, as the Pennamites contended, Nathan Ogden a brother of Amos Ogden was killed, and three other Pennamites wounded. That night Lazarus Stewart and most of his followers fled. The remaining Yankees were taken to Easton; and Ogden at Fort Wyoming, was again in complete possession of the valley.

But early in July, Zebulon Butler and Lazarus Stewart were again here, at the head of one hundred and fifty New Englanders, and began the siege of Fort Wyoming. The old four pounder cannon was resurrected from its hiding place, by the Yankees; and to assist in the cannonade Obadiah Gore, a skilled blacksmith, made a cannon out of a large sour gum tree; but it exploded with such terrific effect as to throw, its iron bands a thousand feet, across the Susquehanna. The siege of Fort Wyoming continued during July and the early part of August. The Yankees built redoubts, and so complete was the investment, that neither men nor supplies, could be obtained from without. The condition of the besieged, grew desperate. Water could only be obtained at night from the river, and food ran short. The authorities, at Philadelphia, had no knowledge of the critical situation, and as relief must be secured or surrender was inevitable, Ogden determined on a daring scheme.

As one of the sentinels paced his beat about midnight on the 12th of July, he saw an object floating in the dark waters of the river below. His suspicions were aroused and it drew his fire. A volley, from the soldiers, followed, and the floating object was riddled with bullets, but it did not sink and drifted on in the gentle current. The soldiers were disarmed of their suspicion, that it might be a messenger from Fort Wyoming floating in the water. The ingenuity of Captain Ogden insured his escape. He tied his clothes, in a bundle and fastened it to a small log. To this, he connected a string which he tied to his arm. Swimming, on his back, so deeply, as only to keep his mouth out of the water, he drew the decoy after him, but at a distance of more than a hundred feet. As he anticipated, he escaped observation and the floating bundle was the object that drew the sentinels fire. Far below the Fort, he swam ashore, dressed and proceeded rapidly over the mountains, and on the third day was in Philadelphia. Vigorous efforts were made by the Pennsylvanians to reinforce the garrison and Captain Dick, with thirty men and provisions, was hastily sent forward, but he was ambushed, lost his horses and supplies, escaping to Fort Wyoming with some twenty men, besides himself, and Ogden. The Dick disaster, discouraged the Pennsylvanians, and reinforcements not being available, the hungry garrison succumbed and Fort Wyoming capitulated August 15, 1771. This may be considered, the close of the first Yankee-Pennamite War.

At a meeting of the settlers, held August 22, 1771, it was voted to build a good blockhouse on the west side of the river and to be under the direction of the committee. This stood near the Pierce Street end of the present bridge. And at a meeting on October 12th, a resolution was passed that Atherton's family, Hadsal and his family, and Anguish and his family, have the liberty to live on the west side, providing they move to the blockhouse with Captain Stewart. Lazarus Stewart was evidently in command of the blockhouse; and about that time he had been voted a settling right in the Forty Township.

The most romantic figure on the western frontier during the critical period from 1755 to 1778, was Lazarus Stewart. This bold and resolute man, into the forty three short years of his dramatic life, crowded, more events of wild and spectacular daring, than any other American of his time. The school boys of a generation ago, found rare delight in the stories of Davey Crockett, and Daniel Boone, and the tales of Kit Carson, and Buffalo Bill. Yet, Stewart was as gallant and picturesque a figure as any of these, and he was even more, a kind of an American Robin Hood; who boldly defied the authority of government, in the very citadel of its power. In the lower counties of the province, gentle Quaker mothers, hushed their mischievous children, with the mention of his dreaded name; and his daring exploits set the Indians all agog, from Shamokin to Onondaga. The proprietary government at Philadelphia, scattered broadcasts, throughout the land, denouncing him, as a dangerous villain and set a high price upon his head. Yet, he was no rash scoundrel, and low down cut throat, but a high born, and gallant leader of men, descended from a famous Scottish clan. Born in Lancaster County in 1734, of a Scotch-Irish father and mother, he grew up on the frontier, and was early inured to hardship and courage. From early childhood, he was practised in the use of the rifle, and no enemy escaped the deadly accuracy of his aim. His bold and impetuous nature, and marvelous physical force made him in a desperate time, a born leader of the valiant men among whom his lot was cast.

As a mere lad, Lazarus Stewart led his company, of the famous "Paxtang Boys," across the Blue Mountains and on to Cumberland, where he joined the English army. In the terrible defeat, at Braddock's Field, he and his rangers fought in the frontier-men's way with stubborn skill and desperate courage. During the terrible time, that followed, when the frontier was ravished by the Indians, with ferocious savagery, Stewart guarded the passes of the Juniata, and protected the scattered settlements. No Indian invasion, escaped this alert and vigorous man. His physical strength and power of endurance, were great, and in the many skirmishes which he fought, he displayed great tact, and that impetuous courage which always distinguished the man.

With the close of the war in 1762, he settled down as a farmer in Hanover Township, Lancaster County, where he married Martha Espy.

The outbreak of Pontiac's War, and the desperate cruelty with which the Indians struck the frontier, again aroused the terrible fury of Lazarus Stewart. At Conestoga, in Lancaster County, there dwelt, the miserable remnant of the great and proud tribe, of Susquehannock Indians, who once held sway over the grand domain of the lower Susquehanna. These shiftless and thriftless Indians, who existed mainly by the labor of their squaws, lived in a squalid village near the Susquehanna. They themselves were so inefficient, as to be harmless and to deserve only the scorn and contempt, and not the fears of men; but their village was the rendezvous of the vagabond and murderous Indians, who plundered the scattered Scotch-Irish settlements.

The frontier's men besought the government, at Philadelphia, to remove these few Conestogas to the interior of the province, so that they might be rid of the pest. And they rightly believed that once the tribe was gone, the bands of murderous Indians, having no place of refuge, would vanish and the frontier would be relieved. But the supine Quaker government, thought more of these Indians, than of the Scotch-Irish whose vigorous manhood and religion they despised. No action was taken and the miserable Indians remained.

Aroused by a terrible murder and the scalping of women and children near them, a company of the dreaded rangers, some fifty seven in number, gathered on the night of December 13, 1763, in the shadow of Paxtang Church, and under the command of Lazarus Stewart rode away. They were well mounted and uniformed in the buckskin garb of the frontier. The stern set features of these silent determined men and the shimmer in the cold December moonlight of the long hunting rifles, swung from the horns of their saddles, bespoke no safety for the Indians at Conestoga.

There was no joy in the band that night; no shouts of revelry broke the awful stillness; and no sound was heard but the hoof-beats of the cavalcade on the frozen ground. With no word from the grim leader at their head and no movement save the swaying figures of the riders, they rode on. It is thus that men ride away in the night to do deeds of daring and cruelty, and perhaps of wrong. At the end of their ride were only a few rude huts and twenty simple souls; a few frail bodies in the guise of men; a few half starved, half naked children. Thus, it was that the on-coming Saxons rode away, to the deadly deed of Aylesford sixteen centuries ago; and thus it was that William the Conqueror rode away on his bloody steed; and so with John Mason, when he burned the Indians, huddled in their rude fort on the Narragansett; and so it was with Lazarus Stewart, as he rode on, that night. Who shall say, that he was right, or that he was wrong. The domes of our capitols, and the spires of our temples have been reared, across the flaming thresholds and upon the writhing bodies of the weaker races. And men, gladly, own the blood of the cruel conquerors of long ago; and we today are proud, to trace our descent, from John Mason and Lazarus Stewart. At daybreak on the morning of the 24th, the barking of dogs aroused, the startled and surrounded village of Conestoga. A few scared Indians appeared with hatchets in their hands, and these were shot down in cold blood. The rest, men, women and children, only a few squalid creatures, fled to the forest in dismay. The troopers fired the houses, and when the flames had cleared the ground of the frail structures, Stewart and his men rode away. The frontier, from Donegal to Bedford, acclaimed the deed as the righteous wrath of God; and the government at Philadelphia, overwhelmed with indignation and shame, proclaimed, it an act of shameful outlawry and set a high price on Lazarus Stewart's head.

The authorities of Lancaster County went out to Conestoga and buried the dead, three old men, two women and a boy. They hunted, about in the woods, and gathered together the terrified fugitives, whom they removed to the workhouse at Lancaster.

The Quakers, at Philadelphia, accused the Scotch-Irish of being religious fanatics, zealots, imbued with the crusader spirit, and the idea that the extermination of the heathen was for the glory of the Lord; and also charged their preachers with being a narrow-minded and bigoted lot, who by their impassioned harangues, exhorted their ignorant followers to these deeds of violence; that when thus aroused and under the influence of strong drink, which was consumed on the frontier, in inordinate quantities, these Irish were without reason or restraint.

There was probably an element of truth in these charges. The Scotch-Irish, had a strong passion for rum and religion; and none too great a regard for the forms of law, and the authority of government. Be these explanations, as they may, the fact remains, that without any reasonable excuse for their conduct, except the set purpose of killing the remaining Indians, the Paxtang Boys, again under the leadership of Lazarus Stewart, on the 27th of December galloped away from their homes in Derry and Donegal townships and took the road to Lancaster. News of their coming threw the quiet town into consternation. There was confusion everywhere. Edward Shippen, the principal magistrate rushed off to Captain Robinson, who with a force of soldiers was encamped nearby, and entreated him to defend the town. But soldiers and citizens were paralyzed, with fear, and only the Sheriff and the Coroner showed any sense, they going to the workhouse with a few followers to defend the Indians. The shopkeepers, in despair, boarded up their windows, and prudent citizens had got themselves safely behind locked doors, when in the early afternoon Captain Stewart and his troopers road down the deserted street to Slough's Inn. There they turned their horses loose in the inn yard, and themselves loose at the bar.

From thence, they marched out to the workhouse, surrounded it, and Stewart ordered, a detachment of his men, to smash the door which had been barricaded. In a later defense of his action, Stewart said, he only desired to take one or two of the Indians whom he said had been leaders in a massacre, to Carlisle for trial. If this was his real purpose, it could have been easily accomplished, for the Sheriff and Coroner, were soon overpowered. In the workhouse were fourteen, unarmed Indians, both male and female. They were, senseless, harmless creatures, ragged, half starved and after their terrible experience at Conestoga' paralyzed with fear.

The raiders, crowded into the corridor of the workhouse. With their superior numbers, if their real purpose had been, to remove the one or two bad Indians, it could have been easily accomplished; but the fourteen Indians, huddled together like rats in a corner, were one by one shot down. Leaving the workhouse a welter of blood and confusion, the raiders went back to the town, mounted their saddled horses and galloped out of Lancaster, with loud huzzahs for King George. And Stewart hurled, a parting fling at the government by boldly declaring he had brought the Quakers a Christmas box.

Attempts have been made, by his friends to both belittle, and justify the crimes of Lazarus Stewart. The crude frontier, of his time, boldly approved his work, and the Reverend John Elder, pastor of Paxtang Church, with more realization, than his ignorant parishioners, of the finer sensibilities and higher morality of civilized man, attempted a labored and artful justification. But the fact, remains, that there is no defense of the tragic affairs at Conestoga and Lancaster, but the justification of the conqueror, the right of force. In all the times of men, whether in eras of war or times of industrialism and commercialism, the stronger have ground the weaker, with that mercilessness, with which the overpowering forces of nature, sometimes manifest themselves, and to condemn, perhaps it ill beseems us, who are now the chief beneficiaries of the crimes of long ago.

Events crowded, on one another, and spread the fame or shame, which ever way you take it, of Lazarus Stewart and the Paxtang Boys. At the outbreak of Pontiac's War, about one hundred and twenty friendly and Christian Indians, including Papoonhank and his tribe from Wyalusing, and Job Chillaway and his family, fled from their usual haunts and the provincial authorities now had them under their care at Province Island, a few miles below Philadelphia.

Seemingly in an ironical attempt, to frustrate the missionary zeal of the Quakers and Moravians, who had civilized and Christianized these poor people, the Paxtang Boys, now singled them out, as the object of their vengeance; and great was the consternation when early in February, fleet messengers, carried the tidings through Chester and Lancaster Counties that Lazarus Stewart and the Paxtang Boys were again on the road. Unwarlike Dunkards and Mennonites, shut tight their old stone houses, and peeked from behind their great barns in quaking fear as the raiders marched by; and the stout old Quaker farmers of Chester trembled, and prayed, and vowed maledictions on the dangerous villain who dared disturb the quiet repose of their beautiful valleys. Prudent housewives, hurriedly lowered, their choice pewter plate into the wells, and buried their more precious treasures and family heirlooms in the ground.

Such a terrible time, the peaceful countryside had never known, but in Philadelphia, the confusion was even worse. There was consternation among the officials. The Assembly charged the Governor with the fault and the Governor said the Assembly was to blame; and the public thought both would lose their jobs, as they deserved, for it was the settled belief, that the Paxtang Boys were coming to overturn the government; and set up in its place a Scotch-Irish establishment, a sort of a Presbyterian hierarchy.

The Governor issued a proclamation and offered a reward, which the Assembly would not pay. Every day, every hour, the situation grew worse. The most appalling rumors were rife; there were 5,000 on the march, under their most terrible and ferocious leaders. Every tale bearer, who had fled from the West, added to the common danger. The terrible, well mounted men in their rough hunting shirts and with their long rifles, caused such a disruption, as the orderly life of the city, had never seen. All business was suspended. The rich merchants closed their shops and boarded their windows up; and fat Quaker squires shook beneath their broad brimmed hats, brandished their staffs, and with unbecoming rage vowed dire vengeance on Stewart and his crew, and thunderously pounded their kitchen floors. The younger set furbished up, the old blunderbusses of the town, and made a show of fight. The authorities hired carpenters and in the streets built a barricade, of which, there were none to defend.

A company of German butchers coming to town, threw the city into a panic of fear. At last the situation, got beyond endurance, for authentic information came that the terrible boys were being actually ferried over the Schuylkill. Then, it was that Col. Turbutt Francis (later of vainglorious Wyoming memory), marched the City Troops, with much fuss and feathers, around the square, and bivouacked them in the Quaker Meeting House.

Every hour, the peril grew greater, and when intelligence came that the dreaded rangers were actually in Germantown, since the Quakers would not fight, the rest could not, something had to be done. Whether the authorities, determined upon it, or he determined upon it himself, the upshot was that a shrewd old Yankee, with a bland tongue, rode out to Germantown, to negotiate. This was too much for Stewart and his raiders. They could kill Indians, over-lord the authorities, and put the Quakers into a panic of fear; but with this masterful intellect, they could not contend. These men, who never quailed, in the midst of the fiercest battle, succumbed to the blandishments of Benjamin Franklin, who sat down with them, and pleasantly discussed the situation, listened to their grievances and argued out the matter. He shrewdly guessed, the desire nearest, to their hearts, and having assured them, that the government would grant a bounty on Indian scalps, and that fifty pieces of eight, would be paid for the scalp of every female Indian, he persuaded them to be good and go home.

The war thus concluded, Franklin went to Philadelphia, and Lazarus Stewart and the Paxtang Boys, in high glee, rode away. They went back to Derry and Donegal, and Stewart to his farm, but within the shadow of his outlawry, and with a price upon his head. The Quakers, probably did not even thank Franklin; but they breathed easier and they were well content to let Stewart alone, and the Conestoga murders go unavenged, so long as he kept behind the Pale and left them alone, to their solemn devotions and thrifty ways.

The years passed by, in quiet and peace, and the old Quakers thought everybody had forgotten about the tragic affairs, except their own uneasy consciences; when an outsider had to stir up, the trouble anew. This time, it was Sir William Johnson, away up in the Province of New York; but he was the agent of the Crown, whose business it was to look after the Indians. In 1768, the Indians threatened a war, and the principal cause of their dissatisfaction was, because Pennsylvania had never punished the perpetrators of the Conestoga and Lancaster murders. He went after the authorities rough-shod and touched them in a sore spot.

The Assembly met and resolved that "Although justice may sometimes sleep, it can never die." However, the spineless government did not act, and Stewart remained unmolested but it may be imagined, rather disturbed; for no man can rest with ease within a jurisdiction, where he is charged with the high crime of murder. A change to the jurisdiction of Connecticut would be more pleasant for Lazarus Stewart and the Paxtang Boys; and they eagerly accepted the invitation of the Susquehanna Company to join in their enterprise, and to receive as their reward Hanover Township. Thenceforth, the life of Lazarus Stewart is the history of Wyoming, during the troubled times of the Pennamite Wars.

In September, 1770, while he was on a visit, to his old home in Lancaster County, he went to the town of Lebanon, and there was placed under arrest, charged with riot, by a constable, assisted by three other men. Grasping the handle of an axe, he knocked the constable down, and his assistants fled. Soon Stewart was reinforced, by a company of his rangers and during the day treated the quiet town to some excitement. The keeper of the inn, where they gathered, afterward deposed that Stewart, who evidently suspected him of being concerned in his arrest in the morning, threatened the frightened publican that if he ever assisted in arresting him or any of his company, "he would cut him to pieces and make a breakfast of his heart." During the day they chased Colonel de Hass, who had instigated the arrest to his home where he was forced to defend himself with arms.

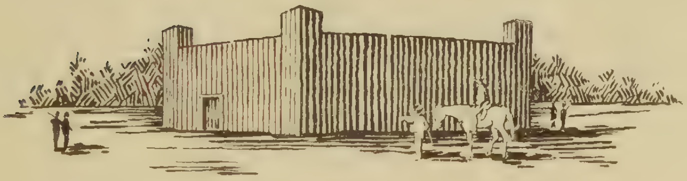
The governor issued, a proclamation naming Stewart "as the most dangerous man in the province," and offering a reward of £50 for his apprehension.

In the following October, unsuspecting that anyone would have the temerity to attempt his arrest, Stewart started for York County on business. He was alone and drove a team of horses. At Wright's Ferry he crossed the Susquehanna, and was no sooner over than he was pounced upon by the sheriff and a large posse. Unarmed he was with little difficulty captured and hurried off to the jail at York. But Stewart had friends, even there, and a swift messenger carried the tidings to his old home, and rallied the Paxtang Boys, who well mounted and armed, started for York to effect his rescue. But the Sheriff had too valuable a prize, to tarry long, and Stewart, securely pinioned and bound, was thrown across a horse and in the custody of the sheriff, and three deputies, was hurried towards Philadelphia. The Paxtang Boys arrived too late. Their chief was gone, and the sheriff had a start of more than a day.

They raced after him, but the distance between the two was too great. The fate of the gallant old marauder seemed certain, as once in Philadelphia, the old charges would be revived; and his activities at Wyoming had incensed the government against him beyond measure, so that conviction would be certain. If ever in his turbulent career Stewart despaired and grew desperate, this was the time. He knew that once in Philadelphia, his end would be on the gibbet. He was now far, from his trusted rangers and his friends. The power of authority and law overwhelmed him. At night, they stopped at Finley's Tavern, well on the way to the city. It was a cold night, in the dead of winter, and the sheriff's party warmed themselves and their prisoner with liberal drinks of rum. The sheriff slept in an adjoining room and the three guards, together with Stewart, lay down on the barroom floor before a great fire. The prisoner was securely bound to one of the guards. Whether Stewart drank less, or could stand more is uncertain, but surely his senses were not dumb, for he succeeded in loosening the rope, which bound him to the snoring guard and cautiously made his way out of the tavern, without arousing any of its occupants. Without a hat, coat or shoes and handcuffed, he made his way to the woods, and by unfrequented paths reached his home at Paxtang, where he arrived the following day.

After the death of Nathan Ogden, hereinbefore related, Stewart was charged by the coroners jury "with the horrid and wilful murder of said Ogden," and Governor Penn sent a message to the Legislature, in which he gave an account of Stewart's arrest by the Sheriff of York, and in which he set forth "that the same Lazarus Stewart, far from being awed by the proceedings of government, against him, has since his excape, put himself at the head of a number of people of his neighborhood, of the same lawless disposition, with himself and with an armed force, has taken possession of the lands at Wyoming, and in cold blood and in the most treacherous manner murthered Nathan Ogden and wounded several others."

Such a weight of indictments hanging over him, would have appalled an ordinary man, but Stewart pursued his checkered career at Wyoming undismayed. Sometimes he was in accord with the Connecticut authorities, sometimes in opposition. His services in holding the disputed lands were invaluable, and he and his followers were liberally rewarded by the gift of the land of Hanover Township. He was principally responsible for the Battle of Wyoming and its terrible consequences. His lofty disdain, of the Indians and his supreme confidence in the whites ability to overpower them in battle; and perhaps the natural intemperance of his mind, led him astray. At any rate, the Indians squared the account, and Lazarus Stewart fell, fighting with the same intrepid spirit with which he first led the Paxtang Boys in the fierce battle at Braddock's Field His bones probably lie with the rest under the monument at Wyoming.



FORTY FORT

CHAPTER IV.

1772—1773

DEVELOPMENT OF THE SETTLEMENTS

FIRST SETTLEMENT AT KINGSTON CORNERS—BUILDING AND LOCATION OF FORTY FORT—KINGSTON PROPRIETORS MEETINGS—DRAWING OF THE THIRD DIVISION OF LAND AND THE ORIGINAL LIST—THE PROPRIETORS LAY OUT THE GREAT ROAD, WYOMING AVENUE—THE TWO KINGSTON FERRIES—ERECTION OF THE FIRST MILLS—DISPUTED LINE BETWEEN KINGSTON AND PLYMOUTH—THE TWO GREAT GENERAL FIELDS AND TOWN POUNDS—EARLY RELIGIOUS SERVICES, AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

From the close of the First Pennamite War in 1771, to the outbreak of the Revolution, was a period of tranquility in Wyoming. New settlers from the East came in, and industry and thrift soon reclaimed the forests, and created the rich farms; which extended from the lower meadows across the higher and safer land of the Third Division, all the way to the gravelly plain, which begins near where the monument now stands.

Jonathan Dean probably built the first cabin near what is now Kingston Corners. He was the original proprietor of lot No. 4, Third Division, upon a part of which lot Wyoming Seminary now stands. It is to be presumed that his house stood north of Market Street and between the Avenue and College Street, on the road which corresponds to the present Main Street, then connecting with the Avenue at a point where now stands Swainbank's furniture store. His cabin was probably erected after the close of the Pennamite War in 1771. The reason, for believing that Mr. Dean was the first settler near Kingston Corners, is the evidence of Captain Nathaniel Landon taken before the Commissioners under the Act of 1799, who then testified "that Mr. Dean improved and possessed this lot before he sold it to Shoemaker, which he well remembers, in 1774 or 1775, Elijah Shoemaker sold to the Township for some vacant land, Captain Landon present thereat and knowing to it."

Major Simeon Draper may have had a cabin on lot No. 3 on the south side of Market Street between that street and Belding's Alley and along the road previously mentioned as he was the original proprietor of lot No. 3. If he lived there, his death on March 21, 1773, was probably the first death within the limits of old Kingston Borough. The evidence in support of his living there is rather meagre, and is contained in the Westmoreland Records at page 811, and reads as follows, "that after the death of Maj. Simeon Draper, which was March 21, 1773, his son, Amos Draper has held his right ever since and done his duty according to the vote of the Company."

However, one of the earliest and most notable settlers in old Kingston Borough, was William Gallup and he may be almost regarded as the father of the Village of Kingston. His name first appears on the list of Wyoming Settlers, dated June 17, 1770; and from thenceforth he and his son Hallet Gallup are frequently mentioned in the Kingston records, and they took a prominent and active part in the public affairs of the old township.*

WILLIAM GALLUP, son of Benadam and Emma Cobb Gallup was born at Groton, Connecticut, July 4, 1723, and married at Norwich, Connecticut, June 9, 1752, Judith Read daughter of John and Lydia Caswell Read, born March 26, 1733, in Newent Society, Norwich, Connecticut. His brother, Colonel Benadam Gallup commanded a Connecticut Regiment in Wadsworth's Brigade, at the Battle of Long Island, and another brother, Colonel Nathan Gallup commanded the 27th Connecticut Regiment at the Battle of Groton Heights. Mr. Gallup's wife and children joined him at Wyoming in the spring of 1772, and his home was located a little south of Belding Alley, near the site of the old Giles Slocum house. He purchased the settling right of Isaac Tripp, consisting of House Lot No. 77, Meadow Lot No. 39, Lot No. 2, Third Division and Lot No. 16, Fourth Division. Being one of the older men, Captain Gallup was of those remaining at Forty Fort, to guard the women and children; and upon receipt of news of the defeat at Wyoming, he ordered, that all the whiskey stored in the Fort be destroyed, in order that it might not fall into the hands of the Indians. His eldest son, Hallet Gallup was in the battle, and escaped by floating down the Susquehanna with his body under water, and his face hidden from view by two rails which he grasped in his hands. A leather wallet, with water marks which was carried by him, during that frightful experience, is still preserved in the Wyoming Hstorical Society rooms.

Another son, William Gallup, Jr., also fought at Wyoming and survived. William Gallup died at Kingston, April 4, 1803, and his wife, Judith, died June 1, 1815, and both are buried in the Old Gallup Burial Ground.

The children of William Gallup were: (1) Lydia, born at Groton, Connecticut, February 14, 1754; (2) Hallet Gallup, born at Groton, Connecticut, January 1, 1756, married December 23, 1784, Mary Bartlett, born April 4, 1760. He died at Kingston, October 6, 1804, and they had no children; (3) Zerviah, born at Groton, Connecticut, June 5, 1758, died at Wyoming May 18, 1841. Married Captain Benjamin Smith, son of Timothy Smith, born 1759, died January 19, 1816. They had a son, John Smith, a prominent physician of the early times; (4) Lucy, born at Groton, Connecticut, February 7, 1760, died at Kingston, November 30, 1821. Married first Nathaniel Gates a soldier in the Revolution born 1736, died at Kingston, November 7, 1793; married second, Aaron Dean and had two children, John Read and Eunice; (5) William, born at Groton, Connecticut, married Freelove Hathaway, and had four children William, who located at Norwalk, Ohio, and married Sarah Bralt; Hallet in Captain Samuel Thomas's Company in the War of 1812, located at Norwalk, Ohio and married Clarissa Benedict; James who died at Mauch Chunk, Pa., March, 1856, unmarried, and Caleb H died at Norwalk, Ohio, September 20, 1827, unmarried; (6) Mary, born at Groton, Connecticut, died in childhood; (7) Eunice, born at Groton, Connecticut, October 22, 1768 died at Kingston, November 8, 1795, married Aaron Dean and had one child, Hallet Dean, who located at Norwalk

Col. Franklin, in his account of the battle, and the surrender of Forty Fort, stated "that all the records of Kingston containing the survey and the division of the land in the Township, with all Pierces' private papers were destroyed." This statement, although accepted by all historians, is not entirely correct. The original map of the town as surveyed by David Mead, and perhaps a resurvey made by John Jenkins, were probably destroyed. The steps taken by the proprietors about 1800 to have the original lines, run again by Jonathan Woodworth, indicating this. Some of the original records, which the writer has examined, were not accessible to others and they perhaps fell into the same error as Colonel Franklin. The records of the town meetings held in Kingston, seem to be more complete than those of the other five settling towns. At the time, the Commissioners, under the Act of 1799, were taking testimony, a Committee composed of Lord Butler and Benjamin Carpenter, Esq., who were appointed at a town meeting held in October, 1801, collected the ancient documents and records, then extant, which they presented to the Commissioners. These were copied in the Westmoreland Town Record No. 3, sometimes called Ledger A.

The first records are the minutes of a town meeting, no date but held shortly before July 3, 1770. Following is the first entry, it being the first record known of political action in the old township, "Voted that Captain Zebulon Butler, Mr. Stephen Jenkins, Captain Benjamin Follett, be a committee for laying out the Third Division in this town."

"Voted that they proceed to lay out the Third Division in this town of Kingston."

"Voted that the Committee above written, be empowered to lay out such highways and roads as they, in their judgment, may judge will best accommodate to the Town and Public."

"Voted that this meeting be adjourned to the center of the Town at the House building on the bank of the River, near the

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Ohio; (8) Esther, born at Groton, Connecticut, October 22, 1768, died at Wyoming, May 18, 1817, married January 15, 1792, Christian G. Oehmig, born August 4, 1764, died February 5, 1839; He was at one time clerk for Mathias Hollenback and later a merchant in Kingston township. They had three children. (9) Sarah, born at Groton, Connecticut, March 4, 1772, and died at Norwalk, Ohio, in 1858. She married first Peter Grubb, born 1754, died January 23, 1807, and had a daughter; married second, May 9, 1809, Augur Hoyt, born June 30, 1761, died at Norwalk, Ohio, November 30, 1836. They had two children, William Read and Samuel G.; (10) Hannah, born at Groton, Connecticut, March 4, 1772, hereinafter more particularly mentioned.

Great Springs, on the first Tuesday in July, next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon."

There is a tradition, that Forty Fort, was located near a copious spring of water. Miner says that Forty Fort, so celebrated in the future history, was begun in the summer of 1770. It is a reasonable conclusion to draw, from the foregoing minutes, that the house building on the bank of the river near the great springs, occupied the site of Forty Fort and that later it was incorporated in the fort itself.

This entry in the town record seems to corroborate the statement of Miner and the earlier historians, and indicates that some part of the works, or at least a public building was standing there as early as July, 1770.

Sheldon Reynolds, Esq., in "The Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania," describes Forty Fort as follows:

"Opinions differ as to its size, the better authority seems to be that it enclosed an acre or more of ground; indeed, recent excavations disclosed the remains of the timbers in place, extending in one direction two hundred and twenty feet, indicating in connection with other circumstances an enclosure of at least an acre. The walls of this fort were of logs, the material generally used in such defences; these were set up-right, in a trench five feet in depth, extending twelve feet above the surface of the ground and were sharpened at the tops. The joints or crevices between the upright logs were protected by another tier of logs planted and secured in like manner, thus forming a double wall. Barracks or huts were built along the walls within the fort for the shelter of the occupants; the roof of these buildings serving as a platform from which the garrison could defend the works; and the space in the center surrounded by the barracks was used as a parade.

The inclosure was rectangular in shape having a gateway opening towards the north, another towards the south and small sentry towers at the four corners, rising a few feet above the walls. A strong flowing spring at the margin of the river, below the structure, supplied water to the fort; access to the spring was rendered safe by means of a sunken passage-way, having the top protected by timber work, leading down from the fort."

The location of Forty Fort with reference to present day boundaries is about as follows: Its southeasterly corner was in the back yard of William T. Pettebone, whose residence is located at No. 278 River Street, or if the walls were very close to the bank of the river, the site of this corner may now be washed away, as the river is constantly encroaching upon the bank. The southerly wall of the fort, crossed River Street at right angles, and probably extended as far west as the rear of lot upon which the house, numbered 147 Culver Street is built. The northerly wall of the fort began close to the bank of the river, crossed River Street at right angles; and passed along the alley at the northerly side of the Smith property which is at No. 221 River Street, to a point on a line drawn parallel with River Street, and which passed through the point, designated in the rear of No. 147 Culver Street. The site of the whole easterly wall of the fort may have been washed away by the river, if as is probable, it was built close to the bank. The westerly wall is to some extent an approximation.

Mr. J. S. Pettebone who has very carefully gone over the old Forty Fort locations, recalls, that his grandfather Joshua Pettebone, once showed him the north and south lines of the fort at the points given. Moreover some twenty years ago, when a cellar was dug under the northerly part of Mr. W. T. Pettebone's residence, the workmen unearthed the bottom part of the heavy timbers of the stockade, and these were set in the ground at right angles to River Street.

The stockade erected at the time of the Centennial in 1878, followed approximately the lines given. If the one dimension was two hundred and twenty feet, as given by Mr. Reynolds, it was the width and from the center of River street, which was then ninety nine feet wide, one half of the width of the fort would place the easterly wall at the point stated above. Moreover the fact that none of the upright timbers have been unearthed when the bank has washed away, would be further proof that the fort was set some distance back from the bank, and that the southeasterly corner of the fort was in Mr. Pettebone's back yard. However the westerly wall would have been a little east of the point above given. The north wall was one hundred and eighty five feet from the center of Fort street, and the south wall three hundred and fifteen feet from the center of Fort street. This makes the length five hundred feet and agrees with previous statements. If the width was two hundred and twenty feet, the area of the enclosure would have been between two and three acres. There were two springs in the river bank, one just below Mr, Pettebone's residence, but outside the stockade; and the other north of the fort.

The building referred to in the foregoing minutes was probably the beginning of Forty Fort, which evidently was not completed or placed in proper condition for defense by November 18, 1772, as the following entry in the minutes of a town meeting held at Wilkes-Barre on that date would indicate: "Those that belonged to and lived in ye town of Kingston to come and do their duty in ye fort at Wilkes-Barre, until they fortify and guard by themselves at Kingston." Both Mr. Miner and Mr. Reynolds state that Forty Fort was begun in 1770, but neither intimate that it was completed. Mr. Miner's sources of information were particularly good as he associated with and interviewed some of those who were here in 1770. This date has been generally accepted, and is the date given upon the monument which marks the site of the Fort itself.

However, Mr. Harvey has stated that this is an error and he is led to this conclusion by the minutes of the town meeting held November 18, 1772, quoted above, and the minutes of a town meeting held September 25, 1773, wherein it is "Voted, that Mr. Timothy Rose of Kingston have liberty to keep a ferry opposite the Forty Fort during the pleasure of this company and on the same regulations," and which he states (which is probably correct), "is the first mention of Forty Fort."

The writer is of the opinion that the date when it was begun 1770 given by Mr. Miner, Mr. Reynolds and the monument, is correct, and that Mr. Harvey is wrong and that had he had access to, and examined the minutes of the meeting of the Proprietors of Kingston held shortly prior to July 3, 1770, and quoted above, his conclusion would have been different.

The minutes of town meetings so freely quoted by both Mr. Miner and Mr. Harvey, are those of the Wyoming Settlements as a whole, or of the Town of Westmoreland, into which they were later erected. In each of the five settling towns, town meetings of the proprietors were held. The records or minutes of these meetings in the Town of Kingston, were kept by Ezekiel Peirce,* who also kept the Wyoming records and was clerk of the Town of Westmoreland.

Following the meeting of the Proprietors of Kingston, held in June, 1770, a meeting was held on July 3d, pursuant to an adjournment. The minutes of this meeting and the one which followed on July 7th, are interesting because they contain the first complete records of political action in Kingston; and also because they seemingly contradict statements heretofore made in other histories. Because of this, they are quoted herein in full and read as follows:

"Tuesday, July 3, 1770, at a meeting held in Kingstown, this day by adjournment, voted that this meeting be adjourned until Saturday, the 7th day instant, July at 2 o'clock afternoon at this place. Voted, that the Rails which are on the land and which were split and cut either in fence and otherwise before the 1st of May, shall belong to the Public Use and shall be moved with a fence on the East side of a two rod road which runneth thru the intervale in this town."

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*EZEKIEL PEIRCE, built his log house, where he resided and died, in the present Borough of Kingston, a few yards South of Pierce Street, and not far from the site occupied by the Maloney oil station. He was born at Plainfield, Connecticut, January 8, 1712, the son of Judge Timothy and Hannah Peirce, and a descendant of Thomas Peirce, who was born in England in 1583, and settled in Charlestown, Massachusetts in 1633. Judge Timothy Peirce was one of the most prominent men of Connecticut. He was born at Woburn, Massachusetts, January 25, 1673, and with his father, Thomas Peirce, removed to the Quinebaug Plantation in Connecticut, where he was one of the original proprietors of the Town of Plainfield in 1699. By successive promotions, he became in 1739, Colonel of the 11th Regiment, Connecticut Militia. He was a membr of the General Assembly of Connecticut from 1717, to 1728, when he was chosen speaker. He was an assistant or member of the Governor's Council from 1728 to 1747. In May 1726, he was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Windham County and held the first session of that Court at Windham Green, June 26, 1726. He was Judge of this Court until 1746 when he was succeeded by Jonathan Trumbull. He was also judge of the Probate Court. He died at Plainfield, May 25, 1748

His son Ezekiel was Town Clerk of Plainfield from 1749 to 1754, a Justice of Windham County, a member of the Assembly of Connecticut after 1751, for a number of years, and in October 1758, was promoted Major of the 11th Connecticut Regiment. He was an original member of the Susquehanna Company and was one of the settlers in 1762-1763. His son, Timothy Peirce hereinbefore mentioned, was one of the "First Forty" proprietors of Kingston.

In August, 1771 at the close of the Pennamite War, he was elected Clerk of the Wyoming Settlements and upon the organization of Westmoreland in 1774, Town Clerk and Recorder of Deeds. He was a member of the 24th Regiment and survivor of the Battle of Wyoming. He married Lois Stevens, (born 1718) died June 25, 1762) on February 11, 1733. They were the parents of the following children: (1) Abel, born December 15, 1736, married in 1757 to Ruth Sheppard, born in 1733. He was an original settler here in 1762-1763. He came here again with Major Durkee in May, 1769, and located in Kingston where he was constable in 1772. He was living in Connecticut in 1775 and joined the "Alarm Party" which marched to Boston at the time of the Battle of Lexington. He returned to Kingston in 1781 and was a Justice of the Peace. He died May 23, 1814, and his wife in 1820. They were the parents of the following children: Sylvina, born April 5, 1758, died August 24, 1852, second wife of Daniel Hoyt; Chester, born 1762, killed by the Pennamites July 20, 1784; Mary, born October 1763, died October 28, 1834, married May 30, 1786 to Lord Butler.

(2) Alice, born November 17, 1738, died unmarried.
(3) Daniel, born January 9, 1740, taken prisoner at the Battle of Wyoming.
(4) Lydia, born February 17, 1743.
(5) John, born March 10, 1745. He was killed at the Battle of Wyoming, July 3, 1778.
(6) Timothy, born June 23, 1747, one of the "First Forty" (hereinbefore mentioned).
(7) Hannah, born January 25, 1749, died unmarried.
(8) Phineas, born January 17, 1751. Settled in Kingston Township.
(9) Lois, born May 6, 1753.
(10) Phebe born September 15, 1755.

"July 7, A. D., 1770. At a meeting held at Kingstown, this 7th of July, 1770, by adjournment, voted that Reuben Davis and Jonathan Dean are appointed to draw the Third Division of land, in this town, the drafts are in the following names:

No.	10	Asahel Atherton.
"	1	Ezra Belding.
"	29	Peter Harris.
"	39 & 64	Third of the island, Benj. Follett.
"	32	Third of Island.
"	40	60 rds. Benj. Shoemaker.
"		46 rds. Silas Bingham.
		50 rds. Joseph Frink.
"	15	26 rds. Vine Elderkin.
"	37	52 rds. Stephen Gardner.
"	12	26 rds. wide, John Jenkins.
"	34	52 " " Cyprian Lathrop.
"	24	52 " " Elias Roberts.
"	36	52 " " Elijah Shoemaker.
"	25	56 " " Theophilus Westover.
"	33	52 " " Oliver Smith.
"	17	26 " " Wm. Buck.
"	13	26 " " Zebulon Butler
"	16	26 " " Stephen Jenkins.
"	4	26 " " Jonathan Deane.
"	3	26 " " Simeon Draper.
"	5	26 " " Zerubabel Jearums.
"	22	52 " " Parshal Terry.
"	26	46 " " Richard Brockway.
"	8	26 " " Thos. Bennett.
"	14	26 " " Elijah Buck.
"	19	26 " " Nathan Walsworth.
"	28	50 " " Samuel Gaylord.
"	6	26 " " Timothy Peirce.
"	27	48 " " Nathaniel Wales.
"	38	64 " " Third of island, Joshua Hall.
"	31	52 " " H. Dow Tripp.

"	21	28 rds. wide,	Timothy Smith.
"	2	26 " "	Isaac Tripp.
"	20	38 " "	Stephen Harding.
"	35	53 " "	Nathan Denison.
"	7	26 " "	Andrew Metcalf.
"	18	30 " "	Reuben Davis.
"	30	52 " "	Thos. Dyer.
"	11	22 " "	Allen Wightman.
"	9	26 " "	John Comstock.

The minutes of these meetings establish the fact that on the site of Forty Fort in July, 1770, there was a building erected, and that it was a public building, as no individual owner was named, and that it was established as the place, where the proprietors assembled in meeting. At the time the first public structures erected on the frontier were places of defense, and it is therefore reasonable to presume, that the settlers had already begun the erection of a place of defense, which stood near the center of the town, adjacent to the plot set apart for a village, and which fortification when completed prior to September 25, 1773, received the name of Forty Fort.

Mr. Harvey has stated that "The first time either in the records of the Susquehanna Company or the settlers at Wyoming, that the name Kingston is applied to the township, (it previously having been referred to as the Forty Township) is in the minutes of a meeting of the inhabitants of the townships at Wyoming held December 7, 1771.' By implication, this statement if correct, would throw doubt on Pearce's interesting narrative regarding the naming of Kingston. However, the minutes of the meetings of the proprietors held in June, 1770, and July 3 and July 7, 1770, each mention the name of Kingstown and had Mr. Harvey examined these, he would not have made the statement contained on page 717 of his book, which is incorrect. There is no record showing when the Second Division (meadow lots) was drawn, but it is to be presumed it was drawn and Kingston named early in June, 1770.

The laying out of roads is, next to places of defense, the first and most important public work, in any new community; and the most enduring achievements of man are the highways with which he has encircled the globe. Imperial Rome is gone, but her superb system of roads which radiated to the out posts of civilization yet exist, and men still tread the Appian way, as they have done for twenty centuries. The finest vision, of the future, in the minds of the Yankee settlers of 1769, was Wyoming Avenue. This magnificent highway, the grandest stretch of road in all Northern Pennsylvania and with few equals in the whole United States, was the conception and achievement solely of Kingston men. Who shall say, but they had in view, the wide thoroughfare of a busy city, perhaps the capital of the western empire, which Connecticut hoped to create from the Delaware to the sea. It was the vision and the achievement of six men, all but one, of the "First Forty" pioneers. To them, the greatest honor is due and while Westmoreland Town and Westmoreland County have passed away and the political institutions which Connecticut created have been displaced by those of Pennsylvania, Wyoming Avenue still exists, and as they rightly called it, in their day, "The Great Road," it still remains. These honored men were: Silas Bingham, William Buck, John Perkins, Timothy Smith, Reuben Davis and John Jenkins. They were appointed a committee on the 25th. of May, 1770, by the Proprietors to lay out a road, and their report contained in Westmoreland Records No. II reads as follows:

"After looking and viewing for sometime, we began on Shawnee line about twenty rods East of Toby's Creek at a Sassafrass stake, on the East side of a road, which we laid six rods wide; thence we run North 45 Degrees East about 2¼ miles to a small white oak, staddle on the North side of the Town Plot; thence North 55 degrees East two hundred forty six (246) rods to a sassafrass stake on the North side of the Creek; thence North 70 degrees East one hundred seventy two (172) rods to a Walnut stake; thence North 48 degrees East 53 rods to a black oak stake; thence North 50 degrees East about one mile to the Town line."

In this connection it may be well to pursue the history of Wyoming Avenue a little further. It must be borne in mind, that the foregoing action was that, of the proprietors themselves, the original creators of the Great Road. In 1774, Westmoreland Town, was organized, and that there might be official sanction of what the proprietors themselves had done, the selectmen were called upon to lay out the highways of Kingston and in their report which follows, not only Wyoming Avenue, but the road now known as Northampton Street, and another road which began at the Plymouth line intersected Wyoming Avenue, at a point, now marked by the site of Swainbank's furniture store were reported.

Following is the report of the official action of the selectmen, laying out Wyoming Avenue and the other two roads, which is published here for the first time.

"We, the subscribers, Selectmen of ye Town of Westmoreland and being called out by ye District of Kingston in said town in performance of and agreeable to a vote of said town to lay out highways in said district, have proceeded and laid out highways in ye manner following, viz First: Beginning at a bunch of White Walnuts on ye West Branch of Susquehanna River, being at ye corner, between Shawnee or Plymouth and Kingston District, thence running North 33 degrees West laying a road one rod wide on each side of ye line between ye two districts, North 300 rods to ye head of ye Meadow Lots in said Kingston; thence running North 45 degrees East about 517 rods to ye North side of Peter Harris' Meadow Lott, laying a road six rods wide Northwesterly from ye head of said lotts; thence ye same course and width twelve rods to a stake marked; thence East 96 rods laying a six rod road North of said line to ye corner of ye house, where Mr. Thomas Bennet lived; then beginning at ye South End of the Town Plot on ye Southeast corner of ye first lot thence North on ye East End of ye said Lots, six rods wide about 236 rods to North end of ye Town Plott. Beginning about two rods North of ye South line of Lott No. twenty and six rods East at a Black Oak stake marked; thence North 36 degrees East about 320 rods to a stake just North of ye Bridge, North of Col. Denisons; thence running East 78 degrees, North about 123 rods to a stake on ye North line of Richard Brockway's Lott; thence North 39 degrees East about 54 rods to a stake on ye Hill East of Tubbs; thence North 50 degrees East about 326 rods to Exeter Line, said road laying six rods wide Westerly of said line;

Then we began on Shawnee or Plymouth line at ye end of Plymouth road at a stake marked; thence East 1 degree South one hundred twenty two rods to ye Southeast corner of Asa Gores Back Lott, laying a road six rods wide South of said line, Ye above and foregoing roads was laid March 13, 1776, as witness our hands.

The above return of highways in Kingston District accepted and ordered to be recorded.

Samuel Ransom
George Dorrance
John Jenkins
Christopher Avery

Selectmen."

There were other roads laid out in the Township by the proprietors themselves. On March 30, 1774, James Atherton, Elisha Swift and William Buck, a committee appointed by the Proprietors, laid a road with the assistance of Nathaniel Landon, surveyor, from the Great Road across the meadow lots. This road began, where little Toby's Creek crosses the avenue (now Union Street) and followed the course of the creek on its Northerly side keeping to the higher ground, to a point a little beyond where the creek makes the great bend in the flats, and thence continuing between lot No. 20, then owned by Obadiah Gore and lot No. 19, then owned by Parshall Terry, to the river. This point on the river is not far from opposite the mouth of Mill Creek and as at that time there was no mill in Kingston Township, it was laid out for the purpose of providing the settlers with a road leading to "Chapmans," the first mill established in the Wyoming Settlements on the bank of Mill Creek near the present Wilkes-Barre Light Company's plant. Mr. Miner says, page 143, "two ferries were kept, one opposite Northampton Street, the other at Mill Creek and from these a revenue of some moment in those early times, was derived. From $25.00 a year the rent of the lower ferry soon rose to $60.00; that at Mill Creek yielding half that sum until discontinued on the erection of mills in Kingston."

In those early times there were no bridges over streams of any considerable size in the old settled communities, and even there most of the smaller streams were forded. On the frontier, the ferries were primitive affairs, consisting of a large flat, usually built of hewn pine logs, fastened together with wooden pins. They were about 20 or 25 feet long and 10 or 12 feet wide, and of sufficient size to carry a yoke of oxen and a loaded cart. The sides were about a foot high, made of timber, hewn quite thin and slanted at both ends. To these the bottom timbers, laid crosswise, were fastened with wooden pins. On top of each side was fastened a wooden block containing two pins, in which worked long oars or sweeps, by which the craft was propelled and guided. These crude affairs would ship a good deal of water but like a raft, they would float and carry a considerable load. It is quite interesting to note the compensation paid the ferry-men in those days, the rates being fixed by public action. At a town meeting held at Wilkes-Barre, May 25, 1773, Mr. Parshall Terry, whose lot bounded the river between which and the farm of Obadiah Gore the above road ran, was appointed to keep the ferry on the west side of the river, and the fare was fixed "at 3 pennies for man and horse and one penny and a half for a single man in the summer season, and four pennies for a man and horse and two pennies for a single man in the winter season."

Before the erection of water grist mills, the corn meal was prepared in small hand mortars with a pestle, or in a hominy block. This latter was constructed by hollowing out a hard wood stump in which worked a large wooden pestle or hammer which was fastened by a string to a spring pole driven in the ground. The hollowed stump was partly filled with corn. The operator grasped the handle of the pestle, forcing it downwards on the corn, the spring pole raising it, when slightly released by the operator. With the assistance of the spring pole, it was thus quite easy to pound or crush, a considerable quantity of corn into hominy within a short time. This hominy or coarse meal was boiled and usually eaten with milk, and constituted an important food on the frontier.

The settlers of Kingston early felt, the need of a mill to grind their grain, not only because Chapman's mill on Mill Creek was inadequate for all the Wyoming settlements, but also because of the expense of ferriage over the river. And we find at a proprietor's meeting held December 6, 1773, that Captain Gore, Captain Gallup, Mr. Swift and Mr. Landon, were appointed a committee to look and view the mill places on Toby's Creek and Mr. Elihu Williams, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Denison and John Comstock, were appointed a committee to view the mill places at the upper end of the town. In furtherance of this object, at a meeting December 21, 1773, the following action was taken; "Voted that this town will apply to some suitable person or persons to build and erect a grist mill and saw mill on Toby's Creek and to build on ye town's cost."

"Voted that this town does now appoint Mr. Nathaniel Landon, Mr. Nathan Denison and Captain William Gallup, as a Committee to look and view the most convenient places to erect a good grist mill and saw mill on Toby's Creek, and see how much land shall be sequestered for ye town's use and for that purpose and make their return to ye next town meeting."

Just when the first mill was erected on Toby's Creek, and the first one in Kingston Township, is unknown, but in view of the foregoing action it was probably during 1774, or shortly thereafter. It was erected by Captain Elisha Swift, and is known as Swift's mill, in the early records. We positively know that it was running November 1, 1776, for on that date a committee composed of Elisha Swift, Jedidiah Stevens and Samuel Gordon laid a road, (recorded in Westmoreland Records No. 2), "beginning on the Great Road between the back lots of Mr. Stevens and Mr. Spaulding; thence North 33 degrees West 320 rods to a stake;" This part of the road is approximately on the line of the present Bennett Street and runs back to a point, near its present intersection with the back road now known as Kelly Street in Luzerne Borough; thence it ran "South 63 degrees West 56 rods to lot No. 14 then owned by Esther Follett; thence it ran South 51 degrees West 27 rods, crossing lot No. 13 to the South-side of Toby's Creek." This part of the road ran southwest from the end of Bennett Street to a point where it crossed Toby's Creek a little above the present bridge over Main Street in Luzerne Borough; from thence it ran on the south-side of Toby's Creek following the flat or level ground "to Mr. Swift's Mills, and to be three rods wide."

These mills were located not far below the present large mill now occupied by Lattimore Lumber Company. Mr. W. J. Parry of Luzerne Borough, accompanied the writer over the ground and from his knowledge gained from old residents many years ago, together with references made in the ancient records, we were led to this conclusion. It will be noted that the road just laid out followed the south side of Toby s Creek to the Mill. It would have been impossible for the road to have followed the south side of the creek for any distance, above this site without heavy expense in its construction. The mountain just above this point falling abruptly to the low swampy ground which extended southwest from the creek. The present road has been cut into the side of the mountain and much of the space occupied by the street car tracks and present road is filled ground.

Captain Swift erected at this point both a grist mill and a saw mill, which is indicated, by a conveyance, mentioned hereafter in this chapter. These early mills were constructed almost entirely of wood. The site, near a fall of water, having been located, the millwright went on the ground and selected his material from the standing trees near by. Logs were placed across the creek, usually in a narrow place and against these sod and dirt were packed; and the water was thereby diverted into a ditch or race, which ran nearly on the level, for some distance below the dam. By this means a sufficient fall was secured. The water flowed from the race, into a flume or sluice made of hewn logs and placed at a considerable pitch. At the end there was a gate which moved up and down, and by which means the flow of water on the wheel could be regulated. A good stout oak tree, having been selected, the journal or axle of the water wheel was hewn from it and each end was smoothed down and made into a journal, which ran in a bearing also made of oak. In one end of this journal was driven the mill iron, a piece of iron made like a crank. To the journal was fastened spokes which supported a rim made of stout hewn plank, tightly fastened together and upon this rim were pinned stout timbers, projecting from it some 6 or 8 inches. These timbers acted as paddles. In the better constructed mills they were hollowed out, having a concave surface, where it resisted the water and a convex surface where it entered the water on the next revolution. This type of wheel, was called an undershot or breast wheel and was used on streams having a considerable flow and little fall. An overshot wheel was used on mountain streams, having a heavy fall and little water. The type, undoubtedly used in the first mill on Toby's Creek, was the undershot. The saw mill was constructed by attaching to the mill crank a wooden timber which extended upwards and drove the saw which was fastened in a square wooden frame of sufficient width and height, to allow large logs to pass through it. This saw frame moved up and down in wooden guides, which were fastened to large upright timbers. The carriage which carried the log consisted of two wooden runners and cross beams. The runners passed back and forth on wooden rails and in order that the carriage might slide easily, the runners were greased with tallow or bear's grease. The carriage was moved back and forth, by means of crude wooden gearing which was propelled by the up and down motion of the saw and its attachments. Only the part of the mill containing the saw was covered and this only by a few boards or slabs.

The grist mill was propelled by the same type of water wheel, but the lever attached to the mill crank, drove a wooden gear wheel, and by means of a bevel gear which ran on this, turned the mill stones. The millwright constructed all of the machinery of wood, usually on the ground, by means of a few simple tools, the drawing knife being one of the most important. The mill stones were hammered out of native stone, the kind selected being a hard, flinty grit. The earliest mills had no bolting cloth, and the meal or flour was separated in a large hand screen.

Elisha Swift who owned this mill was in Wyoming as early as 1772, and was one of the most prominent men of Kingston Township. He was moderator of town meetings, was a member of numerous committees and took a prominent part in all of the political affairs of the community. During an epidemic of small pox, he died of the dreaded disease July 2, 1777. Mr. Swift disposed of this mill, to John Dorrance, and on January 25, 1778, John Dorrance sold the mill to Samuel Gordon. The deed contains the following recital: "Ye grist and saw mill, together with all my right to ye mill, lott, sequestered by ye Proprietors of ye district, aforesaid, to ye use of ye mill situate on Toby's Creek in said district and all ye advantages of my part of tools due by ye late Captain Swift to ye said John."

Samuel Gordon was of Scotch descent and was born in 1740 near Ballehay, County Monaghan, Ireland, which he was forced to leave because of political troubles. He followed the sea for sometime and then settled at Elizabeth, N. J., where he married Mrs. Jane Gillespie, a widow. In 1774 he came to Kingston Township and was a surveyor of land for Litchfield County in 1775. He was clerk of the Westmoreland Court of Probate in 1777. He returned to New Jersey after the Battle of Wyoming, but returned here in 1782, later settling at Wyalusing where he built the first mill on Wyalusing Creek. Owing to the invalidity of Connecticut titles, he lost much valuable property. Mr. Gordon died in Wyalusing in 1810.

Mrs. Bedford in her recollections as published in Peck's History at page 203, says that in the spring of 1778 her father, James Sutton rented his mill in Exeter which stood on the site of Coray's old mill, near the mouth of Sutton's Creek and purchased a mill seat in Kingston, in the place since called Hartsouf's Hollow, now the upper part of Luzerne Borough. By reference to the Westmoreland records, we find that on February 25, 1778, Esther Follet sold to James Sutton, part of lot No. 14, containing six acres. Mr. Sutton evidently began his mill during the spring of 1778 and whether it was in operation at the time of the battle we are unable to say. It stood below Swift's mill and the location was near the bridge, over Main street. This is an old mill seat and has been occupied by a number of mills which will be hereafter mentioned. That this is the site is indicated by reference to the following deeds: Lord Butler who owned lot No. 13, from which Swift's mill seat was sequestered, sold twenty acres to Zacharius Hartsouf January 11, 1790, and James Sutton sold to Hartsouf by deed dated February 22, 1791 six acres, beginning at the Northwest corner of said tract, near Toby's Creek being the six acres he had purchased in 1778 of Esther Follett from Lot No. 14. And on January 15, 1795, Adam Shaffer, who had obtained an interest in Lot No. 14, sold the upper portion "Beginning at the Northwest corner of said lot and extending Southeast the full length thereof to Zacharias Hartsouf's mill seat, containing twenty acres."

James Sutton was from North Castle, N. Y., where he was in business as a merchant. When British goods were interdicted, his business was ruined and in company with his father-in-law, Dr. William Hooker Smith, he removed to Wyoming and first settled on Jacob's Plains. Later he removed to Exeter, where he built a grist mill and saw mill at the place now known as Coray's Glen. He was a man of mechanical genius, and did most of the work of planning and constructing the mills which he erected in this valley. Early in 1778, he removed to the town plot at Forty Fort where he resided at the time of the battle. He made his escape with his brother-in-law, Dr. Lemuel Gustin and their families down the river to Fort Augusta in a rude flat boat, which they constructed. After the trouble he came back to Forty Fort and conducted his mill on Toby's Creek, where he resided for a time, but finally returned to Exeter where he died. In company with Dr. Smith, he built the old forge on the Lackawanna and engaged in the manufacture of iron, but it was not a success. He was the father of Mrs. Jacob Bedford, grandmother of the late George R. Bedford, Esq., to whose recollections we are indebted for the preservation of much of the traditional history of the Battle of Wyoming and the incidents connected therewith.

In the Northern part of the township on Abraham's Creek, a mill was early erected by Elnathan Corey.* It was on Back Lot No. 35. In the deed of Asahel Buck to Benjamin Carpenter, dated May 1, 1778, of part of lots Nos. 35 and 36, there is the reservation of one acre, which had been sold to Mr. Corey for a mill seat; and also in the deed of Benjamin Carpenter to Solomon Finch, dated May 18, 1778, of lot No. 35, there is the following reservation, "Except one acre sold to Elnathan Corey for a mill seat." (Westmoreland records page 988.)

Mr. Corey was the owner of lot No. 34 which adjoined No. 35 on the south. Lot No. 34 he purchased May 20, 1777, but he was evidently the owner of the mill seat on lot No. 35 prior to that date because on the previous May 8th, Asahel Buck owner of lot No. 35 conveyed to Mr. Corey a strip of land "Beginning at the Southwest corner of lot No. 35 in line of the Main Road and running up Abraham's Creek one and one fourth miles and containing one acre of land." This was for a road which evidently ran to Corey's mills. This road is marked on the warrantee map and followed approximately the present course of Eighth Street, in the Boroughs of Wyoming and West Wyoming, to a point somewhere above its intersection with the Back Road (Shoemaker Avenue.)

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*ELNATHAN COREY, came to Wyoming Valley from Goshen, Orange County, N. Y It is said that his home stood where later was located the house of Captain Samuel Breese, on lot No. 34, on the present Eighth Street between the avenue and the creek. His wife was Abigail Green. Mr. Corey probably laid out the little burying ground, in the rear of the avenue and he was buried there. He had a son John Corey, born in 1776, who married Phebe Howe, and their son David Corey, born January 15, 1794, accidently killed at Mauch Chunk, April 24, 1833, married Rebecca, daughter of Elisha Atherton. She was born February 29, 1796, died May 15, 1827. Their children were: Celinda, married September 1, 1836 to Rev. Job I. Harvey; Elisha Atherton, born 1822, died 1909, married in 1844 to Mary Jane born 1826 died 1886, daughter of John Perkins; George born July 5, 1824, died December 28, 1903, married Leonora C. Green; Helen C. born July 27, 1826, married Jerome Salsbury.

The pressing necessity on the frontier, was whiskey, more staple than calico or sugar, and the honor or dishonor of being the first distiller in Kingston Township, belongs to Zachariah Hartsouf. The site of this institution, of joy and iniquity, was in the upper end of the Town Plot at Forty Fort. But evidently in those days, the making of strong liquor was not so prosperous as in these days of secrecy and restraint, for Mr. Hartsouf and his enterprise came to grief at the hands of a creditor, Thomas Wigton, who obtained an attachment from William Judd, Justice of the Peace, December 31, 1776, and placed it in the hands of Jonathan Fitch, Sheriff of Westmoreland County, who made his return of levy as follows: "Attached ye dwelling house and lot of land on which it stands that was occupied by Perrin Ross, not long since, together with ye still house and stills, and stilling implements, thereto belonging and seven casks or hogsheads."

The primitive industrial necessities of Kingston Township, would have been sadly incomplete, without the village blacksmith, and this important place was filled, by a no lesser personage, than Obadiah Gore, one of the most active and prominent men of the Wyoming Settlements, and head of one of the most distinguished families in the early history of Northeastern Pennsylvania.*

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*OBADIAH GORE was born at Norwich, Connecticut, July 26, 1714, a descendant in the fourth generation of John Gore of Waltham Abbey, Sussex, England, who settled at Roxbury, Massachusetts before 1637. He was married November 4, 1742 to Hannah Parke and having learned the trade of a blacksmith, worked at it in his native home. He was promoted Captain of the 8th Company of the 3rd Connecticut Regiment. He was one of the original members of the Susquehanna Company and his name appears in the Indian deed. He came to Wyoming in 1770 and in June of that year was on the Committee of Settlers. He became a considerable owner of land in Kingston Township as early as March, 1773, and was living on his farm Meadow lot No. 20, and his house, according to extant records, stood on the Avenue almost opposite its intersection with the present Bennet Street. It is probable that Mr. Gore and his sons were the first men in the world to use anthracite coal, which they did in a blacksmith forge soon after their arrival here. Being an old man, he remained at Forty Fort during the battle; but five of his sons and two of his sons-in-law were in the engageemnt, and five of them were killed. Mr. Gore was usually elected Moderator of the Kingston Proprietors meetings and was also the town treasurer, and for the first few years was probably the most prominent citizen of the Town. He died of small pox, January 10, 1779, and at that time was perhaps the wealthiest man in Kingston Township, although the inventory of his estate shows him to have been worth only £670. Mrs. Gore died at Sheshequin, August 14, 1804. Their children were: (1) Obadiah, born April 7, 1749, at Norwich Connecticut. Came here in 1762. Married to Anna Avery. He followed his father's trade. He settled in Wilkes-Barre and was Town

It is unlikely that any proprietor's meetings were held in Kingston Township after that of July 7, 1770, until the 21st of September, when Captain Ogden dispossessed and dispersed the Yankees. The year 1771 was a period of confusion and it was not until August 15th of that year that the Yankees regained possession. That fall a block house was erected on the west side of the river and as stated before, a few families joined Cap't. Stewart there. It is improbable that any separate meetings were held by the Kingston proprietors; during that year and part of 1772, all the settlers joining together in meetings in the Fort at Wilkes-Barre. We find that matters relating to Kingston were determined at a general meeting on December 7, 1771. It was decided that settling rights should be valued as follows: In Lackawanna at $40.00; in Plymouth and Wilkes-Barre, at $50.00, and in Kingston at $60.00. On December 17th, Captain Stephen Fuller and Captain Caleb Bates were admitted to settling rights in the Forty Township, and on January 21, 1772,

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Clerk in 1772. At the outbreak of the Revolution, he was appointed First Lieutenant in the Third Regiment, of the Connecticut Line and served until January 1, 1781. He was Treasurer of Westmoreland County, member of the General Assembly of Connecticut, and was one of the original proprietors of the Township of Ulster and removed to Sheshequin, now in Bradford County in 1784, where he conducted a store and distillery for many years. He was Associate Judge of Luzerne County in 1791, and in his later years was perhaps with the exception of Colonel Franklin, the most distinguished citizen of Bradford County. The poet, Alexander Wilson, has most pleasantly described him and his home in "The Foresters.' Judge Gore died at Sheshequin, March 21, 1821, and his wife died there April 24, 1829.

(2) Daniel, born at Norwich, March 13, 1746. Was here in 1762 and came again in 1769. He lived on Jacobs Plains. Was a Lieutenant in the Battle of Wyoming and escaped. He died September 3, 1809 in Plains.

(3) Silas,born at Norwich,December 28, 1747. Came here in 1769, and in 1770, married Keziah Yarrington. He settled in Kingston Township in 1776 and was killed in the Battle of Wyoming. He was the father of three daughters, Martha, born August 20, 1771, married first, Jedidiah Shaw, and second Jonathan Wilkinson, and died in 1835. Lucy, who married Avery Gore, and Rebecca, born in 1776, married Joseph Bloom.

(4) Asa Gore, born in Norwich, February 28, 1750, came here in June or July, 1769. He settled in Kingston Township and was the owner of Lot No. 5, Third Division. He married Elizabeth Avery born July 31, 1756. Mr. Gore fell in the Battle of Wyoming and was survived by his widow and one son, Asa Gore, who resided at Preston, Connecticut.

(5) Hannah, born at Norwich, May 28, 1752. Came here in the spring of 1772 and married Timothy Peirce, mentioned under the "First Forty" and, second Thomas Duane.

(6) Lucy, born at Norwich, May 28, 1754, married in 1777, John Murphy and they resided on the Town Plot at Forty Fort. Mr. Murphy was killed in the Battle of Wyoming, and Mrs. Murphy was one of the fugitives who fled over the mountains to the Delaware River where soon after her arrival, she gave birth to a son, George Murphy, in Depuis' barn on the Delaware. She subsequently married David Smith and their daughter Elizabeth, became the wife of Theophilus Larned of Huntington Township.

(7) Sarah Gore, born at Norwich, November 23, 1756 (See under Lawrence Myers and Benjamin Bidlack).

(9) Samuel Gore, born at Norwich, May 24, 1761, resided in Kingston Township. Was in Captain Buck's Company and survived the Battle of Wyoming. He removed to Bradford County where he died May 2, 1834.

(10) John Gore, born at Norwich, February 25, 1764. As a boy he remained in Forty Fort and was one of the fugitives. He resided in Kingston Township during his life and was a large property owner and prominent citizen. He was married in 1793 to Elizabeth, daughter of Jeremiah and Ann Paine Ross, born June, 1764. John Gore died August 4, 1837 and his wife, September 23, 1838. They were the parents of the following children all born in Kingston Asa born in 1794, died June 13, 1855, unmarried; Elizabeth, born April 16, 1797, died March 3, 1808. John born 1799, married Ruth Searle; Mary born July 15, 1801 married October 23, 1839 to Moses Wood, died January 20, 1861. George born Dec. 1803, married Harriet Smith, and died November 16, 1841. Sarah born May 28, 1806, married July 1, 1836, John B. Wood, and died December 21, 1886. Jeremiah, born March, 1809, died November 6, 1838, unmarried.

William Stewart and Phineas Peirce were admitted to settling rights, and on January 27th, Curtis Spaulding, Isaac Underwood, Joshua Tuttle and Edgar Carey were admitted.

The river was very high in the latter part of February, 1772, and a town meeting on February 25th was postponed because of the flood. After December 1772, these general meetings had little to do with Kingston affairs, these being transacted at meetings of the proprietors of the town which were held with frequent regularity from December 11, 1772, until about January 1, 1774. On January 27, 1774, the town of Westmoreland, comprehending all the Wyoming and Delaware settlements, was constituted by the Connecticut Assembly, and attached to Litchfield County. Thereafter, there was a regular civil organization of the Wyoming settlements, according to Connecticut law.

It is rather interesting to trace public action in Kingston Township as evidenced by the numbers of these proprietors meetings, before the regular civil authority of Connecticut was instituted through Westmoreland Town in January, 1774. At a meeting held December 11, 1772, Captain Gore being the Moderator it was "voted that the Town of Kingston will guard by itself, and that Elisha Swift's house shall be the house to guard until they can be better accommodated," and it was also determined that "there should be but four men to stand guard during twenty-four hours." The house of Captain Swift stood on town lot No. 14, and faced the Susquehanna River at the bend, some distance above the location of Forty Fort.

At this time there was a dispute with Plymouth regarding the line between the towns, and Obadiah Gore, Wm. Buck and Elisha Swift were appointed a committee and it was also determined to hire John Jenkins to run the line according to David Meade's survey. This matter of disputed line came up at every town meeting and another committee, composed of Ezra Belding and Parshall Terry,togeth er with Messrs. Swift and Gore, was appointed to run this line, and also to run a line between each lot. But there was evidently disatisfaction and later during the same meeting the following were added to the committee, Timothy Rose, Thomas Bennet, John Perkins, Noah Pettebone, William Buck, Lebbeus Tubbs and Andrew Spaulding. On November 26, 1773, the Plymouth dispute was finally settled and the line between the two townships definitely fixed by the following action.

"Kingston, November 26, 1773.

"We the subscribers, Being appointed to settle the line between Kingston and Plymouth and having heard the allegation of the Party, think it reasonably to begin at the Bunch of Walnuts By the river running North 33 degrees West between the Towns.

James Welles.
Amos Welles."

"We the subscribers, Committee of the Townships of Kingston and Plymouth agree and concur with the above judgment and that Nathaniel Landon* shall run the line by his compass as it now runs.

Obadiah Gore — Committee for
Phineas Nash — Kingston and
William White — Plymouth.
William Buck
Elisha Swift

Entered November 26, 1773."

In these minutes we find reference to an iustitution that has passed away, an inheritance from the manorial system of Medieval times. In Kingston Township it was called the general field, and was in imitation of the commons of rural England of long ago. That this system may be understood the following is quoted from the minutes.

"At a meeting of ye Proprietors and inhabitants, legally warned and held in Kingston, May 3, 1773, Captain Gore chosen Moderator for ye work of ye day. Voted by this town that there shall be two distinct general fields in this town, viz: from Mr. Peter Harris Southward to Plymouth line shall be one entire field and Abraham's Plains to be another entire field by itself. Voted by this town to build a pound and to build it on Timothy Pierce's land.

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*NATHANIEL LANDON was born at Southhold, Suffolk County, N. Y ,September 29, 1734. He came to Wyoming Valley in 1773 ,and May 11 . 1775 was appointed by the General Assembly of Connecticut, surveyor of lands for Litchfield County. He was commissioned captain of the Second, or Kingston company of the 24th Regiment, October 17, 1775. He was one of the most important men in the early history of Kingston Township. His second wife was Mrs. Sarah Durkee, widow of Captain Robert Durkee, who died in Kingston, September 3, 1803. Nathaniel Landon removed to Delaware County, Ohio in 1807. His father Samuel Landon lived with him in Kingston and died here, January 21, 1782. By his first wife, Captain Landon was the father of three sons: Joshua, killed in the Battle of Wyoming; David who married Lucinda Allen; and Samuel who married first, Elizabeth Gardner, born February 12, 1786, died September 15, 1815 and their daughter Clarissa married Rev. Erastus Smith, a prominent Methodist minister. His second wife was Elizabeth Blanchard, and their daughter Martha B., married Thomas Hutchins. Samuel Landon removed to Ohio

"Voted that every person that belongs to ye Southmost field that owns cattles or hogs to take them out of ye general field by ye 4th. day of this May by ten of ye clock in ye forenoon."

"Voted that every person that owns land within the lower general field has a right to take said creatures out of said field that shall be found there and pound ye same."

Meadow lot No. 17, then owned by Peter Harris, was the southern boundary of the Town Plot at Forty Fort, and therefore the lower field ran from Forty Fort to Northampton Street, and the upper field or Abraham's Plains ran from Abraham's Creek northward to the Exeter Line.

This general field included the cleared and fertile land along the river usually denominated as the meadows or flats. The back lots (Third Division) were then only partly cleared and the wheat and corn and other crops were raised on the flats, which were divided into farms, unfenced and largely uninhabited because of the frequent floods. When the crops were harvested in the fall, the owners of horses, cattle and other domestic animals, whether owners of any of these flats or not, were at liberty to pasture their cattle in this general field, and in the fall and early spring it was covered with large herds of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. These animals mingled together and that their owners might distinguish them, and disputes be avoided, there was a public requirement that every owner should have a registered ear mark. He was obliged to mark or cut the ears of all the animals which he owned and it was required that his mark must be described and registered in the public records. That this may be understood we copy the following from the Westmoreland Records, of some of the ear marks in Kingston Township.

"Lebeus Tubbs, his ear mark one half penny ye under side of ye right ear and a square crop of left ear. Entered month ye 6th, 1777."

"Hallet Gallup's ear mark a swallow tail on ye left ear. Entered February 17, 1778."

"William Crooks, his ear mark a smooth crop of ye right and a slit in ye top of left ear. Entered August 29, 1777."

"Timothy Rose, his ear mark one half penny ye upper side of left ear. Entered August 10, 1777."

"John Jenkins, his ear mark a fleur de lis on ye left ear, Entered September 16, 1777."

By the fourth of May, all the cattle must be removed from the general field, so that they would not injure the growing grain and the careless owners who failed to obey this regulation were liable to have their creatures impounded. Next to the strong fortification, which the Kingston men built at Forty Fort, the most important institution, was the town pound. It stood on the east side of and a little back from, Wyoming Avenue and almost opposite Division street on land then owned by Timothy Peirce, who was keeper of the keys. This important individual, who represented the majesty of the law in those early days, kept the keys of the fort; looked after the stocks and whipping post and managed the town pound which was his most lucrative job. Every unfortunate farmer, whose cattle strayed on the general field during the prohibited time, paid tribute to the Key Keeper, usually twenty-five cents per head. The pound was built of hewn logs, and covered perhaps a thousand square feet of ground. It was about ten feet high and had a stout door or gate which was fastened by a gigantic lock, which could only be opened by the great brass key, which was the insignia of the keepers power and authority. Colonel Wright has humorously described the impression made upon his youthful mind by the Key Keeper, "He (the Key Keeper) may have been said to have carried the State and the Church in his breeches pocket, at all events the key which opened the door to each. And I can well remember the impression, the display of these bright shining evidences of power, as well as personal dignity, made upon my mind. No less probably, than that produced by the distinguished personage entrusted with the keys of Dover or Calais, upon the humble people of the wayside."

The Key Keeper of the upper field was Thomas Stoddard and as he owned and occupied the upper one half of Meadow

Lot No. 9, the upper pound was probably located there, along the Avenue and some rods north of the stone bridge.

Taxes were not high in those days and at a town meeting held March 4, 1773, it was "voted to raise one dollar tax on each back settling right in the Town."

That the pioneers did not neglect the business of government is evidenced by the frequency of their town meetings. Beginning with December 11, 1772, Captain Gore, Moderator, within the period of little more than a year they held meetings as follows:

January 5, 1773, Captain Butler, Moderator;
February 25, 1773, Captain Butler, Moderator;
March 4, 1773;
March 29, 1773;
May 3, 1773, Captain Gore, Moderator;
June 24, 1773, Captain Gore, Moderator;
July 13, 1773, Captain Gore, Moderator;
July 27, 1773, Captain Gore, Moderator;
September 9, 1773, Captain Gore, Moderator;
December 6, 1773, Captain Gore, Moderator;
December 21, 1773, Elisha Swift, Moderator.

There is no mention of any house of worship in Kingston Township during this period and services may have been held in the fort or what is more probable, in the houses of individuals. The New England people were very strict in their religious duties and this matter was not neglected in Kingston Township, as the following entry in the minutes of a meeting held February 25, 1773, demonstrates.

"Voted that Captain Obadiah Gore and Mr. Parshal Terry be and they are hereby appointed a committee to meet with ye towns to confer with ye Rev'd. Mr. Jacob Johnson how his time shall be divided amongst us in his preaching ye gospell among us and to meet at ye fort in Wilkes-Barre on Monday ye first day of March, next, at ten of ye clock in ye forenoon."

Mr. Johnson had been engaged as minister by the Wyoming Settlers and was then living at Wilkes-Barre. But their arrangements with Mr. Johnson were evidently not satisfactory and at a meeting held September 9th, it was "Voted that Captain

Obadiah Gore and Mr. Parshall Terry shall be a committee to treat with Mr. Wadhams about his preaching the gospel among us or advise to some suitable person and also treat with the Town of Plymouth for to join with us so as to have the gospel preached among us."

It is probable that most of the religious services in Kingston Township were thenceforth conducted by the Rev. Noah Wadhams, who was a resident of Plymouth.

It has been generally considered that the first public school system in Pennsylvania was that established by the Connecticut Yankees in the Wyoming Valley. In the original action by the Susquehanna Company, lands were set aside for religious, educational and charitable purposes and these public lands of the proprietors as will be hereafter more fully treated, have continued to our day.

The first record of any public action taken by the settlers of Kingston regarding schools was that of the proprietors at the meeting held December 21, 1773, when it was "Voted that Mr. Landon, Mr. Cummings, Mr. John Perkins are appointed committee men to divide ye town into three districts for keeping of schools."

Here was definite action only four years after the first Yankee settlement and sixty two years before the great state of Pennsylvania instituted a system of public schools.

"At a town meeting legally warned and held in Kingston, December 6, 1773, for choosing town officers, Captain Gore was chosen Moderator for this meeting.

Ezekiel Pierce chosen Town Clerk.

Captain Gore, Nathan Denison, Nathaniel Landon, Elisha Swift and William Buck were chosen selectmen.

Samuel Cummings was constable.

Elisha Swift and John Perkins chosen grand jurymen.

Phineas Pierce, Timothy Rose and Rufus Williams, William Buck, John Dorrance and Thomas Stoddard chosen surveyors of highways.

Luke Swetland and Captain Taylor was chosen Tything men.

Parshall Terry and Nathan Denison was chosen fence viewers.

Timothy Pierce and Thos. Stoddard chosen Key Keepers.

Captain Gore was chosen Sealer of weights and measures.

Timothy Pierce chosen brander of horses.

Voted that William Buck, Mr. Landon, Mr. Pettebone are appointed a committee to run ye rode that leads to the river and also ye rode that leads from that rode to ye rode that leads to Captain Gallups and to make inspection of and make their report thereon by next meeting.

Nathan Denison, Nathaniel Landon and Ezekiel Pierce was chosen directors.

Ezekiel Peirce was chosen a director for ye town of Kingston to attend ye ————— meeting, etc.

Voted that ye present selectmen shall set out ye district for each surveyor to work on ye highways, and Captain Gore, Captain Gallup, Mr. Swift and Mr. Landon are chosen to look and view ye mill places on Toby's Creek and make return to this or ye next meeting.

Mr. Elihu Williams, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Denison, John Comstock is appointed as a committee to view ye mill place at upper end of ye town and make their return by next meeting."

CHAPTER V.

1773—1776

THE TOWN OF WESTMORELAND

Absence of Government in the Settlement—Articles of Agreement, Passed by the Susquehanna Company, June 2, 1773—Timothy Smith—Erection of Town of Westmoreland, January 1774—First Town Meeting, March 1, 1774—Twenty Fourth Regiment, Connecticut Militia Organized—Yankee Invasion of the West Branch—The Plunket Expedition, and Battle of Rampart Rocks, Christmas Day 1775.

As heretofore pointed out, the Wyoming Settlement from 1769 to 1774, constituted a distinct colony; independent of all jurisdictions, as separate and complete in itself, as ever were the colonies of Plymouth and Connecticut The authority of Pennsylvania, the settlers would not accept, and it, they had successfully resisted, and ejected its officers and soldiers by force of arms. The colony of Connecticut, while never renouncing its title, to the western lands, carefully avoided any action which might be construed as an exercise of jurisdiction, and assumed no responsibility for the settlement of Wyoming. The Susquehanna Land Company, a private business enterprise without even a patent from the authorities of Connecticut, had in itself no civil authority. It is true, it had divided some of the land, which it had purchased, into settling districts or townships, and exercised a certain supervision over the settlements it had established.

The meetings of the company were however, principally devoted to the distribution of land, the regulation of settling rights, and the settlement of the disputed title before the King in Council. The actual government, of the colony, was left to the settlers themselves, and this, they could have carried on by the exercise of squatter sovereignty; but they did not resort to this inherent power, as had their ancestors at Plymouth. It is evident, that their object from the beginning, was to found a new colony; and the reasons why they did not exercise the functions of government, by constituting civil officers and establishing laws, was fear of their Pennsylvania adversaries; and the desire to enlist against Pennsylvania, the powerful support of the colony of Connecticut. They did institute, a system of arbitration for the settlement of disputes, but this is no more than parties to a private contract, generally provide; and it must always be borne in mind, that they were members of a private association, and as all members of such organizations are, they were bound by its rules. But these rules were necessarily limited in their extent, and their enforcement could only be provided for by a forfeiture of rights. They chose constables to collect the rates, which they levied and to enforce the judgments of their arbitrators; but the penalties, which they could inflict were only forfeitures of settling rights, or rights in the Susquehanna Purchase itself. No magistrates were provided for, and these officers are essential to government. The townships or districts into which the Susquehanna Purchase was originally divided, functioned to a certain extent by themselves, and we have seen, that the proprietors of Kingston Township, exercised many of the prerogatives of government. They laid out roads and divided the township into school districts and they sequestrated land for public purposes.

Relieved of the pressure of Pennsylvania, and having pretty well established their settlements by 1773, they, had time to quarrel among themselves; and it becoming apparent to them, that Connecticut was unwilling to interpose her jurisdiction; and the necessity for some civil authority pressing, the Susquehanna Company at a meeting held at Hartford, June 2, 1773, adopted the following, which they were careful to denominate Articles of Agreement.

"1. Whereas, we the subscribers inhabitants of Connecticut in New England, in America, already settled, and about to settle on certain lands on the river Susquehanna in said Connecticut, by us and our associates, sometime since purchased of the original natives, by, and with the consent of the said Colony of Connecticut.

And whereas, the same lands are claimed to be within the jurisdiction of the Province of Pennsylvania; and the Colony of Connecticut choosing to proceed with caution and deliberation, have applied to counsel learned in the law, in Great Britain, for their advice, which at present the colony have not received, by reason whereof we have as yet no established civil authority residing among us in said settlement, in consequence of which deficiency, disorders may arise tending to disturb the peace and happiness of the settlers, as well as the peace of our Sovereign Lord, the king, which to remedy, we have this day come into the following heads, or articles of agreement, with each other.

1st. We do solemnly profess and declare true and sincere allegiance to his Majesty, King George the Third, and that no foreign prince, person, prelate, state or potentate, hath, or ought to have any jurisdiction, power or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within the realm of England.

2d. We do solemnly promise and engage, that we will, so far as lieth in our power, behave ourselves peaceably, soberly and orderly towards each other, in particular, and the world in general, carefully observing and obeying the laws of this colony, as binding and of force with us equally in all respects, as though we actually resided within any of the counties of this colony.

3d. For the due enforcing such laws, as well as such other orders and regulations as shall, from time to time, be found necessary to be come into by said settlers and Company, we will immediately within each town, already settled, and immediately after the settlement of those, that may be hereafter settled, choose three able and judicious men among such settlers, to take upon them, under the general direction of the Company, the direction of the settlement of each such town, and the well ordering and governing the same, to suppress vice of every kind, preserve the peace of God and the King therein, to whom each inhabitant shall pay such, and the same submission as is paid to the civil authority in the several towns in this colony; such inhabitants shall also choose, in each of their respective towns, one person of trust to be their officer, who shall be vested with the same power and authority, as a constable, by the laws of this colony is, for preserving the peace and apprehending offenders of a criminal or civil nature.

4th. The Directors in each town shall, on the first Monday, of each month, and oftener, if need be, with such their peace officers, meet together, as well to consult for the good regulating thereof, as to hear and decide any differences that may arise, and to inflict proper fine or other punishment on offenders, according to the general laws and rules of this colony, so far as the peculiar situation and circumstances of such town and plantation will admit of; and as the reformation of offenders is the principal object in view, always preferring serious admonition and advice to them, and their making public satisfaction, by public acknowledgment of their fault, and doing such public service to the plantation, as the Directors shall judge meet, to fines in money, or corporal punishment, which, however, in extreme cases, such Directors shall inflict, as said laws direct.

5th. The Directors of each individual town or plantation, shall, once every quarter, or three months, meet together to confer with each other on the state of each particular town in said settlement, and to come into such resolutions concerning them as they shall find for their best good, as also to hear the complaints of any that shall judge themselves aggrieved by the decision of their Directors in their several towns, who shall have right to appeal to such quarterly meeting.

6th. No one convicted of sudden and violent breach of the peace, of swearing, drunkenness, stealing, gaming, fraud, idleness, and the like, before the Directors of the particular town in which he lives, shall have liberty of appeal to such quarterly meeting, from the sentence of such particular Directors, without first procuring good security, to the satisfaction of such Directors, for his orderly and sober behaviour until such meeting, and for his submitting to and complying with the sentence of such meeting. No one, in matters of private property, shall have liberty of appeal from such particular Directors, to such quarterly general meeting of Directors, where the controversy is not more than twenty shillings.

7th. Such quarterly meeting of Directors, shall appoint an officer, statedly, to attend them as their clerk, who shall carefully register their proceedings, also an officer in the character of general peace officer, or Sheriff, who also shall attend them, and to whom the inhabitants of the whole settlement submit in the same manner as the inhabitants of any county within this colony, by law are obliged to their respective High Sheriff.

8th. All persons within such settlement accused of the high handed crimes of adultery, burglary and the like, shall be arraigned before such quarterly meeting, and if convicted, shall be sentenced to banishment from such settlement, and a confiscation of all their personal effects therein, to the use of the town, where such offence is committed, and should there still be the more heinous crime of murder committed, which God forbid, the offender shall be instantly arrested, and delivered into the hands of the nearest civil authority in Connecticut, and should any person or persons be accused of counterfeiting the bills or coins of any province on this continent, and be thereof convicted before such quarterly meeting, the colony whose bills are thus counterfeited, shall have liberty to take such offender and punish him, he shall be instantly banished from the settlement, and his personal effects confiscated as aforesaid, and all persons convicted of any heinous crime, in any province on this continent, and shall fly from justice, the inhabitants shall, as well directors and peace officers, as other, aid and assist their pursuers in apprehending them, that they may be duly punished in the Government where they have offended.

9th. No appeal shall be from the doings of such quarterly meeting or their decrees, to the Susquehanna Company, in general, save where the property of land is disputed, in which case the appellant shall first secure the appellee for his costs, if he make not his appeal good before the Company.

10th. The inhabitants of each town, to wit: All the males of twenty one years and upwards, and a proprietor in one of the said towns shall annually meet, on the first Monday in December, and choose Directors for such town, with their peace officers, and other officers that shall be found necessary for the ensuing year, and the Directors, etc., that now may be chosen, shall have authority until new are chosen, and no longer.

11th. The Directors of each town shall make out and exhibit to their first quarterly meeting, a list in the rateable estate and polls of the inhabitants of each town, and such quarterly meeting shall have power to assess the inhabitants for defraying public expenses, as also to enforce the assessment made in each particular town, if need be.

12th. The law regulating the militia of this colony, shall be particularly attended to by the Directors of the respective towns, and the general regulation thereof, as the particular circumstances of the people require, shall be in the power of such general quarterly meeting.

Also, we do solemnly declare these and such other regulations as we shall hereafter come into, by and with the advice and consent of the Susquehanna Company, in full meeting assembled, to be of force and binding on us, and on each of us, our heirs and assigns, until the colony of Connecticut shall annex us to some one of the counties of this colony, or make us a distnct county, or we obtain from the said colony, or from his Gracious Majesty, King George the Third, whose true and loyal subjects we are, powers of Government in some more permanent method.

And lastly, it is further agreed and voted, that the Directors in each of the several towns now settled, and that shall be settled, shall forthwith procure a copy of the foregoing agreements, which shall be entered at large in a book for that purpose, and all the male inhabitants of the age of twenty-one years, shall, personally subscribe the same with their own proper names, or mark, and strictly abide by and fulfill the same; and such inhabitants or settlers as are already come into, to settle, or shall hereafter appear to come in as settlers, as shall neglect, or refuse to subscribe to and abide by the foregoing agreements shall not continue there, nor be admitted as settlers on said lands.

Voted, that the following persons be, and they are hereby appointed Directors in the several towns hereafter mentioned, until the first Monday in December next, with the powers and authority according to the foregoing agreement.

To wit: For the town of Wilkes-Barre,—Maj. John Durkee, Capt. Zebulon Butler, and Obadiah Gore, Jr.

For the town of Plymouth,—Phineas Nash, Capt. David Marvin, and J. Gaylord.

In New Providence,—Isaac Tripp, Esq., Timothy Keys, and Gideon Baldwin.

For the town of Kingston,—Capt. Obadiah Gore, Nathan Denison, and Parshall Terry.

For the town of Pittston,—Caleb Bates,. James Brown, and Lemuel Harding.

For the town of Hanover,—Cap't. Lazarus Stewart, Wm. Stewart and John Franklin."

It will be observed, from the foregoing, that these adventurers and their supporters in Connecticut were still wedded to the idea, that the powers of government must be bestowed by higher authority, i. e., the king, or a colony acting under and by virtue of its charter. Unlike the people of Plymouth Colony, they had not yet mustered sufficient resolution, "To covenant and combine themselves together into a civil body politick; and by virtue thereof to constitute and frame just and equal laws and ordinances." Had they adopted, the independent policy of the Pilgrims, the history of this section would undoubtedly have been entirely different, and we to-day would be living in another commonwealth. It will be observed that, this action of the Susquehanna Company went but little beyond that of any ordinary society in the adoption of its by-laws. They did, it is true, provide for limited punishments, according to the laws of Connecticut; and gave to the governing body the directors, certain judicial power. The Susquehanna Company however, was mighty careful to disavow, any and all jurisdiction, over the actions of the directors, except where the property of land was disputed. It had retained a qualified control over the land; the settler only holding a right to the land allotted, his right subject to forfeiture upon his failure to perform the required duties. The status of the settler was like, that of the members of a beneficial society, who upon failure to pay their dues and observe the rules, surrender the benefits.

The very spirit of government is contained in the Plymouth Compact. They ordained and established a government with power to make laws and enforce obedience thereto. But this incomplete and badly woven fabric of the Susquehanna Company attempted to limit the powers of squatter sovereignty possessed by the settlers themselves; and by throwing the settlers a sop, designed to preserve the tie binding them to the colony of Connecticut. It was the work, of the lawyer promoters back in Connecticut, and not of the resolute men who had camped on the Susquehanna. And it is not strange, to find the determined proprietors, of Kingston Township, at their annual meeting in the following December, as heretofore set forth, electing a full complement of officers, just as any other town in Connecticut might do.

It is manifest, that the settlers were not satisfied with the makeshift thrust upon them; and one of their principal men, Timothy Smith, a resident of Kingston Township and one of the "First Forty", left in October 1773, for New Haven, determined, that Connecticut must assert her jurisdiction, or something else be done. Due largely to his untiring work, the persistency and the ability he displayed, the Connecticut Assembly at last was moved; and this same Timothy Smith, admiringly styled by the settlers, "Old Head", may perhaps be regarded as the father of Westmoreland Town. In his maneuvering the Legislature, he was ably supported by Joseph Sluman, a nephew of Governor Trumbull. Before, its adjournment the Assembly, determined to assert and support its claim to the western land, and to appoint a committee to treat with Governor Penn. With this cheering news, Mr. Smith returned to Wyoming, and at a meeting held December 8th, he, together with Joseph Sluman and John Jenkins, was elected agent to the General Assembly in January; and an advisory committee to consult with them was appointed and directed to meet at the house of Thomas Bennet in Kingston, December 18th. On December 30th, a largely attended Town Meeting was held at the house of Ezekiel Peirce in Kingston and a long list of instructions to their agents was drawn up and passed. In the meantime, November 19th, Governor Trumbull appointed Dr. William Samuel Johnson, Jedidiah Strong, Esq., and Colonel Eliphalet Dyer, commissioners to treat with Governor Penn, and on December 15th, these commissioners met the Governor in Philadelphia. The commissioners proposed that as the Connecticut settlers were on the East Branch of the Susquehanna and the Pennsylvanians on the West Branch, a temporary line of jurisdiction, might be drawn without inconvenience to either side. To this proposition, Pennsylvania refused to accede, and demanded that the Connecticut people evacuate the lands in their possession, until a legal settlement of the controversy, be obtained. The commissioners replied to the foregoing, by reminding the Governor, that the County of Northumberland was only erected after it was practically known that a statement of their claim had been drawn up and laid before learned counsel in England for their opinion; and was perhaps precipitated to prevent if possible, the probable consequences of that measure.

A short time before this conference, the learned counsel in England had rendered an opinion favorable to Connecticut.

The General Assembly met on January 12, 1774 and adjourned January 29th, and late in the session it passed an Act, "That the inhabitants dwelling within the bounds of this Colony on the West side of the river Delaware be and they are hereby made and constituted a distinct Town, with like powers and privileges as other Towns in this Colony by law have, within the following bounds and limits, viz, Bounded East by the said Delaware River, North by the North and South line across the Colony at fifteen miles distant West, from a place on Susquehanna River called Wyoming; and South by the South line of this Colony, which town is hereby annexed to the County of Litchfield and shall be called by the name of Westmoreland."

Zebulon Butler, residing in Wilkes-Barre and Nathan Denison in Kingston, were appointed Justices of the Peace and were authorized and directed to call a meeting of the freemen for the purpose of choosing town officers.

The first town meeting was held March 1, 1774, and the minutes are as follows:

"At a town meeting legally warned and held for Westmoreland, March 1st, 1774, for choosing town officers, etc., Zebulon

Butler, Esq., was chosen Moderator for the work of the day. Major Ezekiel Peirce was chosen town clerk.

"March ye 1st. Voted that this meeting is adjourned until tomorrow morning at this place, at eight of the clock, in ye forenoon.

"March ye 2nd, 1774, this meeting is opened and held by adjournment. Voted, that ye town of Westmoreland be divided in the following manner into districts, that is to say, that ye town of Wilkes-Barre, be one entire district, and known by the name of Wilkes-Barre district: And that ye town of Hanover, and all the land south of Wilkes-Barre, and west on Susquehanna river, and east on the Lehigh, be one district, by ye name of Hanover district. And that Plymouth, with all ye land west of Susquehanna river, south and west to the town line be one district, by ye name of Plymouth district; and that Kingston, with ye land west to ye town line, be one district, by ye name of Kingston district; and that Pittston be one district, by ye name of Pittston district; and that Exeter, Providence, and all the lands west and north to ye town line, be one district, by ye name of ye North District: and that Lackaway settlement and Blooming Grove, and Sheolah, to be one district, and to be called by ye name of ye Lackaway district; and that Coshutunk, and all ye settlements on Delaware, be one district, and joined to ye other districts, and known by ye name of ye east district.

SELECTMEN

"Christopher Avery, Nathaniel Landon, Samuel Ransom, Isaac Tripp, Esq., Caleb Bates, Lazarus Stewart, Silas Parke, were chosen Selectmen, for ye year ensuing. Isaac Tripp, Esq., refused to accept. John Jenkins was chosen Selectman in ye room of Esq. Tripp.

"Captain Stewart refused to accept. Rosewell Franklin was chosen Selectman in ye room of Captain Stewart.

TOWN TREASURER

"Zebulon Butler, Esq., was chosen Town Treasurer.

CONSTABLES AND COLLECTORS OF RATES

"Asa Stevens, Timothy Smith, Jonathan Haskel, Asaph Whittlesy, Noah Adams, Phineas Clark, William Smith, were chosen Constables and Collectors of Rates.

SURVEYORS OF HIGHWAYS

"Anderson Dana, Daniel Gore, Elisha Swift, Thomas Stoddart, Thomas Bennet, Perrin Ross, Rufus Lawrence, Samuel Ransom, Jonathan Parker, Isaac Baldwin, Zavan Tracy, Elijah Witter, John Ainsley, William Hibbard James Lastley, John Dewit, John Jenkins, Jr., Aaron Thomas, Anthony Chimer, Abraham Russ, Benjamin Vancampin, Benjamin Harvey, were chosen Surveyors of Highways.

FENCE VIEWERS

"John Abbott, William Warner, Ezekiel Peirce, William Buck, Nathan Denison, Esq., Thomas Stoddart, Frederick Eveland, John Baker, Charles Gaylord, Samuel Slaughter, Abraham Harding, Captain Parrish, John Jamison, John Gardner, were chosen Fence Viewers, for ye year ensuing.

LISTERS

"Anderson Dana, Daniel Gore, Elisha Swift, Eliphalet Follet, Perrin Ross, Nathan Wade, Jeremiah Blanchard, Zavan Tracy, Uriah Chapman, Gideon Baldwin, Silas Gore, Moses Thomas, Emanuel Consawles, John Jenkins and Phineas Clark, were chosen Listers, for ye year ensuing.

LEATHER SEALERS

"Elisha Swift, Ebenezer Hibbard, and Captain Silas Parke, were chosen Leather Sealers ye year ensuing.

GRAND JURORS

"Jabez Sills, James Stark, William Buck, Elias Church, Phineas Nash, Thomas Heath, Barnabas Cary, Lemuel Harding, Hezckiah Bingham, John Franklin, Timothy Keys, were chosen Grand Jurors ye year ensuing.

TYTHING MEN

"Philip Weeks, Elihu Williams, Luke Swetland, Justice Gaylord, James Brown, Isaac Parrish, Timothy Hopkins, were chosen Tything men.

SEALERS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

"Jabez Sills, Captain Obadiah Gore, Captain Silas Parke, Thomas Heath, Jeremiah Blanchard, Jonathan Haskel, Zipron Hibbard, were chosen Key Keepers."

Thus was the town organized by the designation of one hundred officers.

In the Town of Westmoreland, we have a unique organization, and because of special conditions, somewhat different than the towns of Connecticut. A town in Connecticut is of more importance than a Pennsylvania township. It is governed by the freemen who meet in town meetings and transact their business in the open forum; and at the annual meetings, elect their officers, the most important being the town clerk. He keeps the minutes, records all deeds and bonds, and all attachments of land issued for debt; also the record of births and deaths and other matters of public interest. After March 1, 1774, all public matters were entered in the Westmoreland Records.

The Susquehanna Company had evidently contemplated the erection of a county, instead of a town and they had divided Wyoming into townships, which if the county had first been erected would have easily passed into Connecticut towns, but the legislature saw fit in the first instance to create a town, and we therefore have the singular situation of a number of townships in a single town. With the organization of Westmoreland, these townships did not lose their identity, but continued to function in a limited way, until after the change of jurisdiction, when most of them became full fledged Pennsylvania townships. After the meeting in December 1773, it is not probable that Kingston Township, elected a full set of officers or functioned in the same manner that it did in 1772 and 1773.

It was determined, at a town meeting held June 27, 1774, to form a military company in each district or township, into which the Town of Westmoreland was divided; and Joseph Sluman and Captain Zebulon Butler were elected representatives to the General Assembly, and took their seats at the session which convened at New Haven in October, they being the first members from Westmoreland. At this session, futile efforts were made to have a county erected. At the session beginning May 11, 1775, Zebulon Butler and Ezekiel Peirce, represented Westmoreland and an act was passed extending the boundaries of the town westward to the Fort Stanwix Treaty line; and enacting that the town should be one district for a Court of Probate. The Assembly appointed the following officers: Justices of the Peace, Zebulon Butler, Nathan Denison, Silas Park, William Judd and John Vincent; Joseph Sluman, Judge of the Court of Probate; and Nathaniel Landon and Samuel Gordon, surveyors of land. It also appointed Zebulon Butler Colonel; Nathan Denison, Lieutenant Colonel; and William Judd, Major of the Twenty Fourth Regiment, which it had established for the Town of Westmoreland; and at the following session in October the line officers were appointed. Those, of the Second Company, located in Kingston District were: Nathaniel Landon, Captain; George Dorrance, Lieutenant, and Asahel Buck, Ensign.

Since the close of the Pennamite War in 1771, the Proprietors of Pennsylvania had made no effort to eject the Yankee settlers. They continued to survey and make grants of land in the disputed territory, and a few actual settlers came under these grants; but they usually fortified their titles by purchasing a Susquehanna Company right. However in September, 1775, a considerable body left Wyoming and established themselves on the West Branch near the present site of Muncy. In 1772, the county of Northumberland, had been erected and the president judge of this county in 1775, was Dr. William Plunket, an

Irishman and a member of the great family, so celebrated in Irish affairs. He was also colonel of a battalion of Northumberland County militia. Soon after the arrival of the Yankees on the West Branch, Colonel Plunket attacked and defeated them and carried their leaders off to the Philadelphia jail.

The Continental Congress apprised of these doings on the Susquehanna; and importuned by the Connecticut delegates, passed a resolution December 20, 1775, calling on the contending parties to cease all hostilities, release all prisoners and restore all property which had been seized. But before the passage of this resolution, Dr. Plunket had raised a formidable force of some 600 or 700 men. The New Englanders by their unsuccessful adventure on the West Branch, had provoked the Pennsylvanians to action, and stimulated the egotism of Colonel Plunket. This expedition, the largest and best equipped which had invaded Wyoming Valley, left Fort Augusta about the middle of December, and with bands playing and colors flying slowly wended its way by the narrow road up the Susquehanna. Spies had reported to Zebulon Butler, the organization of this army and the beginning of the march, and he mustered the men and officers of the 24th. Regiment to repel the invaders.

At the head of about 400 men, he took up his position near Nanticoke Falls and awaited the oncoming enemy. Never was Wyoming's peril so great. In the previous Pennamite War, its inhabitants were chiefly men, and there was little property to protect. Now, there were cleared and cultivated farms, well stocked with horses, cattle and sheep; and the comfortable cabins, of the pioneers, housed numerous families of helpless women and children and elderly people. The little Yankee army was poorly armed. Many of their guns and much of their best equipment, had been swept away in the disastrous rout at Muncy. Now they appeared on the field of battle, some with guns, and some only with pitch forks and scythes. And thus, it was, they humorously dubbed themselves; "The end of time."

They made their camp on the flats near where Harvey's Creek flows into the Susquehanna, and on the evening of the 23rd., Colonel Butler sent Major Garrett under a flag of truce to Colonel Plunket. The invaders had now reached Harvey's Landing owned by Benjamin Harvey, Sr., about a quarter of a mile below Nanticoke Falls; and to the demand of the Yankees, Plunket replied, that the purpose of the invasion was to arrest a few of the principal disturbers.

Before daybreak the following morning, leaving Ensign Alden and a guard of twenty men to occupy the site of their encampment, the Yankee force retired and took a position behind the ledge of rocks, which extends above the ravine through which Harvey's Creek flows, and along the mountainside to almost the brink of the river. This natural rampart of rocks, was an impregnable position, and the soldiers were deployed behind it to the best advantage. Lazarus Stewart, with a force, was dispatched to the east side to guard the passage of the river; and Colonel Butler protected his right flank, by posting a detachment high on the mountain above the precipitous bluff.

As the Pennamites advanced, Alden retreated and took his position with the main body. The skirmish line slowly moved forward, Colonel Plunket in the van, when suddenly the Yankee line behind the rampart of rocks was revealed to his astonished vision. "My God, what a breast work," he is said to have exclaimed.

Immediately Zebulon Butler ordered his men to fire, and the discharge, by platoons, deceived the enemy as to their numbers. In this skirmish, Hugh McWilliams was killed and three other Pennamites wounded. They then fell back to Harvey's Creek and prepared to force the passage of the river; and carry on their invasion of the valley by the east side. After dark, they attempted to cross, but, when they had nearly reached the opposite shore, were subjected to a deadly fire by Lazarus Stewart's men, and Jesse Lukens, son of the Surveyor General of Pennsylvania was killed and several others wounded. Benjamin Harvey, Jr., a Yankee prisoner captured at Fort Augusta, who was placed in one of the boats called upon his friends to desist, or all who attempted the crossing, would probably have been killed. Plunket prostrated himself in the bottom of his boat, which successfully shot the falls, and he thus escaped. Thus ended the first days engagement.

At daybreak on Christmas morning, the Pennamites advanced and the Battle of Rampart Rocks began. The firing

Part of the Battlefield of Rampart Rocks.

was general along both lines. Plunket's men stormed the barricade but were repelled with considerable loss. A force on the left attempted to turn the Yankee flank, but the men Butler had posted on the bluff beat back their assailants, and although the engagement continued until nightfall, little impression was made on the Yankee lines.

Seeing the futility of further assault, and threatened with greater loss, Plunket ordered his men to retreat. They fled down the west side of the river and were pursued for many miles by Lazarus Stewart and his Rangers. The Yankee loss was four men killed and some ten or fifreen wounded, and the Pennamites must have suffered considerably more.

CHAPTER VI.

1776—1778

THE REVOLUTION

The Public Sign Post Fixed at Forty Fort—County of Westmoreland—Incorporation of Kingston Ecclesiastical Society—Celebrated Indian Family of Montours—Continental Companies of Durkee and Ransom—First Indian Attack Made in Kingston Township—Hewitt's Continental Company Stationed at Forty Fort—William Crooks Killed by the Indians—Leading Tories of Central New York—Tory Families on the Susquehanna—British Invasion of 1778—Massacre of the Hardings—Americans Gather at Forty Fort.

In those early days, the public sign post was a place of importance. Near it, the town meetings were usually held, and there were located the stocks, the pillory, and the whipping post. As there were no newspapers, public intelligence was spread by means of written posters; and the notice, of meetings, of sales, of strays and other public matters, was legally made when posted on the public sign post. At first, the legal sign post was fixed on a tree, north of Colonel Butler's home in Wilkes-Barre; but soon the Kingston and Plymouth people, who were more numerous, and had the richer farms, united, and it was voted that a certain tree in Kingston, "ten rods north of the house of Mr. Timothy Rose shall be the public sign post." This was located on the town plot at Forty Fort a little distance north of the old ferry, and along the road or street which skirted the bank of the river. It had been voted, at a town meeting held September 25, 1773, that Mr. Rose keep the ferry at Forty Fort. He was the owner of two lots on the town plot, and located the ferry on one of these, near his home. For sometime, all the town meetings were held in Kingston, but the dispute was finally settled by a compromise and it was:

"Voted that for the future the annual town meetings and freemens meetings shall be held, half the time on the east side of the river and the other half on the west side of the river, for one year."

The rivalry between Kingston and Wilkes-Barre, which has continued to our day, had already begun.

Shortly after the opening of the sessions of the General Court of Connecticut, on October 10, 1776, it was enacted "That the town of Westmoreland, lying on the west side of the river Delaware in this Colony, shall be a distinct County and be called the County of Westmoreland."

It was also provided that two county courts be held annually, one on the second Tuesday of November, having cognizance of all criminal matters, not extending to life. For the trial of murder cases, it was enacted, that a session of the Superior Court should be held in the county at such time as should be specially ordered by the chief judge. Appeals from the County Court were to be heard in the Superior Court either in Fairfield County or Litchfield County, and it was enacted that no criminals should be sent from Westmoreland County to New-Gate Prison in Hartford County; but that another prison should be erected in the county of Westmoreland.

It appointed, Increase Moseley, a Connecticut lawyer, Judge of the County Court; Andrew Adams, Zebulon Butler, Nathan Denison and William Judd, Justices of the Quorum; and Messrs. Butler, Denison and Judd and John Jenkins and Uriah Chapman, Justices of the Peace. Nathan Denison was appointed Judge of the Court of Probate, and Jonathan Fitch, Sheriff.

There is no evidence, that Mr. Moseley ever held court in Westmoreland or that the judges of the Superior Court of the state tried any cases here. It is probable, that the justices of the peace exercised their limited jurisdiction, and that is about all the court that was held. If serious crimes were committed, of which there is no record, offenders were undoubtedly sent back to Litchfield County for trial. We know that a little later some of the Tories residing up the river were arrested and conveyed to Litchfield for trial, and that Andrew Adams Esq., was appointed to prosecute them.

Under Connecticut law, attachments for debt and on bonds secured by land, were issued by the justices of the peace, while

Westmoreland was still a town; and after the erection of the county, this practice was continued. In fact in Connecticut, the county organization was not of the same importance as in Pennsylvania. The county court house was not a place, for the general trancastion of public business. That was done either at the town hall or in the cities at the municipal buildings. The town was the important unit; and it was to the town clerk that they took their deeds and mortgages, bonds and other papers to be recorded; and it was to him, that attachments against land were returned. The Westmoreland records are the records of Westmoreland Town and not of Westmoreland County; and were kept by the town clerk and not by some county official.

Even to this day the county organization in Connecticut is not of such great importance as in most of the states. The numerous court houses are principally buildings for the trial of causes and do not contain a number of offices as in this state. In the smaller places, they are closed, when the court is not in session, and the courts are held in most counties at two and in some at more than two county seats.

The records of Westmoreland County are extremely meagre, and it is evident, the war and the devastation of the settlements interfered with and retarded the county organization.

At this session of the General Assembly, a petition or memorial signed by Nathan Denison, Elisha Swift and Parshall Terry, a committee in behalf of the District of Kingston, was presented setting forth, that: "There is no Ecclesiastical Society established by the Assembly in Westmoreland, that the assessed valuation of Kingston is £4,000 and that it contains 480 inhabitants, and that it desires to be incorporated as an Ecclesiastical Society." It was resolved by the Assembly that: "The said district and the inhabitants are constituted a distinct Ecclesiastical Society with all the powers, privileges and immunities, which other ecclesiastical societies by law enjoy; and said society shall be called and known by the name of the Society of Kingston." The law of Connecticut, then provided, that all such towns and societies should annually grant a tax for the support of the minister. The church societies were Congregational, and it was the established church of the colony.

The tax list of Kingston District in 1776, is as follows:

James Atherton, James Atherton, Jr., Asahel Buck, William Buck, Aholiab Buck, Richard Brockway, Asa Brown, Benjamin Budd, Thomas Bennett, Jeremiah Baker, John Bass, Henry Bush, Kingsley Comstock, Samuel Cummings, Elias Church, Gideon Church, Amariah Cleveland, Nathan Denison, Amos Draper, George Dorrance, John Dorrance, Thomas Foxen, Stephen Fuller, Jr., William Gallup, Lemuel Gustin, Asa Gore, Obadiah Gore, Silas Gore, Samuel Gordon, Peter Harris, Elijah Harris, Dethick Hewitt, Levi Hicks, John Hammond, Dudley Hammond, Amariah Hammond, Eben Hatch, Ezekiel Hamilton, Esther Follett, Benjamin Follett, Eliphalet Follett, John Fish, Asahel Jearums, William Kellogg, Jesse Lee, James Ligget, Nathaniel Landon, Peter Lowe, Robert McIntire, Winchester Matthewson, Seth Marvin, John Murphy, Phineas Peirce, Timothy Peirce, Ezekiel Peirce, John Peirce, Noah Pettebone, John Perkins, Isaac Phillips, Ashbel Robinson, Elias Roberts, Elias Roberts, Jr., Timothy Rose, Elijah Shoemaker, Benjamin Skiff, John Smith, William Hooker Smith, Timothy Smith, Lockwood Smith, Benedict Satterlee, William Searle, Constant Searle, Luke Swetland, Jedidiah Stevens, Joshua Stephens, Roasel Stevens, Thomas Stoddart, Ebenezer Skinner, Elisha Swift, Parshall Terry, Parshall Terry, Jr., John Tubbs, Lebbeus Tubbs, Isaiah Walker, Israel Walker, Parker Wilson, Ozias Yale.

The list in 1777 contains the following additional names:

Asahel Atherton, Isaac Baldwin, William Baker, David Bixby, Robert Campbell, John Comstock, Peleg Comstock, Elnathan Corey, William Crooks, Henry Decker, Joseph Disberry, Isaac Downing, James Divine, Peter Finch, Isaac Finch, Daniel Finch, John C. Fox, Gabriel Ferguson, Hallet Gallup, Charles Gillett, William Hammond, Oliver Hammond, Daniel Hewitt Christopher Hurlburt, Daniel Ingersol, Josiah Kellogg, Eldad Kellogg, William Stevens, Mary Ransom Swift, widow of Elisha, Uriah Terry, Nathaniel Terry, Ichabod Tuttle, Isaac Underwood, Stephen Whiton.

The following names appearing in 1776, do not appear in 1777, and a considerable number of these were in the Continental Army.

Jeremiah Baker, Gideon Church, Levi Hicks, Amariah Hammond, Eben Hatch, Exekiel Hamilton, Benjamin Follett, John Fish, Asahel Jearums, William Kellogg, Seth Marvin, John Murphy, Phineas Peirce, Isaac Phillips, Ashbel Robinson, Elias Roberts, Elias Roberts, Jr., Benjamin Skiff, John Smith, William Hooker Smith, Benedict Satterlee, Roasel Stevens, Elisha Swift, Parshall Terry, Jr., John Tubbs, Lebbeus Tubbs, Isaiah Walker, Israel Walker, Parker Wilson, Timothy Smith.

The list for 1778 contains the additional names of Lebbeus Hammond and Isaac Van Orman.

Among those, whose names appear in these tax lists, is that of Isaac Baldwin, who was born at Litchfield, Connecticut, November 12, 1753, and was a member of the class of 1774 in Yale College. He studied law and was admitted to the bar of Litchfield County in 1775, and shortly thereafter removed to Wyoming, and settled in Kingston Township. Mr. Baldwin was probably the first resident lawyer in Westmoreland County. He was adjutant of the 24th Regiment, Clerk of the Court of

Probate, and Clerk of Westmoreland County Court. On the morning of the Battle of Wyoming, Colonel Butler sent Mr. Baldwin with messages to the Board of War, which in due time he delivered. In the meantime the Wyoming Settlements having been destroyed, he repaired, to his old home at Litchfield where he practiced law for many years. Mr. Baldwin was a member of the Connecticut Assembly, and Clerk of the House for a number of years. He died at Pompey, Onondaga County, New York, December 19, 1818.

Among those who came after 1769 was Lebbeus Tubbs.[*]

Among those who came in 1771 was Noah Pettebone.[‡]

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[*] Lebbeus Tubbs was born in Lyme, Connecticut, about 1730, son of Samuel and Mercy Tubbs. He served in the French and Indian War; and about 1760, with his father removed to Nova Scotia. They, however, returned to Connecticut and in February 1773, settled in Kingston Township Lebbeus Tubbs was the owner of House lots Nos. 23 and 24, Meadow lot No. 2; and lot No. 29, Third Division where he resided and where his father Samuel died. Lebbeus Tubbs was married to Bathseba Hamilton born December 1, 1732, and daughter of Jonathan Hamilton. He was lieutenant of the First Alarm List company of the 24th Regiment and fought at Wyoming. In 1786, he removed to Sheshequin and later to Elmira where he died. He was the father of the following children:

I. Samuel, born in Connecticut in 1755, was a member of Captain Durkee's Independent Company in the Continental Army. He removed to Sheshequin and thence to Elmira N. Y. where he was a colonel in the militia. In 1811, he settled in Elkland, Tioga County where he died September 7, 1841. His wife was Sara Susanah, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel George Dorrance, and she was born in 1760 and died August 16,1838. Their children were (A) Robert, born in Kingston, March 25, 1780, died at Osceola, Pa., August 9, 1865; married September 14, 1806, Clara daughter of Daniel Hoyt, and they were the parents of Dr. Robert Hamilton Tubbs, a prominent physician of Kingston for many years. Dr. Tubbs's old residence and his drug store on Wyoming Avenue just below Swainbank's furniture store, have recently been torn down; (B) Cynthia born in Kingston , May 1782, married Samuel Jenkins, died at Elmira, March 6, 1860. (C) Bixby, born 1786, married Jonathan Jenkins, died at Newtown, N. Y., March 28, 1876. (D) Polly M. born September 17, 1789, married David Hammond; died January 21, 1867. (E) George, born 1790, died 1792; (F) Susana, born January 10, 1792, married John Ryon Jr., and was the mother of John and James Ryon, celebrated lawyers of Schuylkill County. (G) Samuel born December 15, 1794, died May 15, 1870. (H) Benjamin , born December 17, 1796, died August 19, 1873. (I) James born January, 1800, died November 20, 1823. (J) Hannah, born December 25, 1802, married Martin Stevens, died August, 1842.

II. Lucy, born April 5, 1758, married Lebbeus Hammond, died April 17, 1844.
III. Lebbeus, born 1762, married Hannah Matthews, died July 29, 1843.
IV. Bathsheba, married Phineas Stevens.
V. Hamilton, married Abigail Hammond, died September 10, 1857.

[‡] Noah Pettebone was born at Simsbury, Connecticut, April 16, 1714, son of Stephen Pettebone and his wife Deborah Bissell. He was married in 1745, to Huldah Williams, and in 1763 removed to Amenia Precinct, Dutchess County, N. Y., from whence he removed to Kingston Township, erecting his cabin on Meadow lot No. 22. His second wife was Phebe Tubbs. He was at the fort, during the battle, and escaped to Fort Penn. He lived in Amenia Precinct until 1781, when he returned to Kingston where he died March 28, 1791. Noah Pettebone and his first wife, Huldah Williams were the parents of the following children:

I. Esther, born June 1747, married William Allsworth, December 1776, died May 1, 1833,
II. Huldah, born August 1749, married Benjamin Atwater.
III. Noah born November 1751, married in 1776, to Lucy, daughter of Obadiah Scott. He was killed in the battle of Wyoming and was survived by two children who died in childhood.
IV. Hannah, born October 18, 1753, married Joseph Shaw.
V. Stephen, born September 1755 was a member of Durkee's Independent Company in the Continental Army and was killed by the Indians February 10, 1779.
VI. Dolly born June 9, 1757, married Timothy Stevens, Sr., September 5, 1777.
VII. Lydia, born December 1759, married John Vaughn, Sr. 1781.
VIII. Oliver, born May 13, 1762. Escaped from Wyoming with his father in 1778 to Amenia Precinct where on December 21, 1783, he was married to Martha, daughter of Dr. Barnabas and Martha Sabens Payne, born July 14, 1763. In 1788, he settled in Kingston Township near his father. In 1802, he was Commissioner of Luzerne County and was also a captain in the Pennsylvania Militia. He died March 17, 1832, and his wife died Christmas Day, 1833. They were the parents of the following children:
1. Oliver, born September 9, 1784, died December 16, 1813.

During the Revolution, emigration from Connecticut, was forbidden, and as indicated by the tax lists of Kingston Township, its population and that of Westmoreland showed but a slight increase in the first three years of that period. The war was of direful consequence to the feeble settlements on the Susquehanna, and the terrible results should have been early apprehended by the settlers of Westmoreland. Located, almost on the head waters of the river, was Onondaga Castle, capital of the Six Nations, and the canoes of the Western Senecas, most terrible

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2. Esther, born September 15, 1785, married February 25, 1804, George Trucks. Died September 25, 1835.

3. Payne, born January 24, 1787, died August 13, 1814; married November 27, 1810, to Sarah, daughter of Joseph Tuttle, born April 4, 1793 and died April 27, 1869. They were the parents of Stoughton, born April 9, 1812, died October 1, 1889, and Payne born December 23, 1813, hereinafter mentioned, and died March 20, 1888.

4. Joshua, born August 31, 1788, died March 29, 1877. Married July 27, 1809 to Eleanor Gay, daughter of Ebenezer Jr. and Betsy (Woodruff) Gay. They were the parents of the following children: Sarah Ann, born April 4, 1810, married September 6, 1832 to George Reese; died February 12, 1888. Oliver, born June 22, 1811, died July 17, 1874. Samuel Thomas, born April 27, 1813, married November 18, 1834, Ann Reel, died April 18, 1880, Elizabeth, born January 30, 1815, married December 15, 1835 to Oliver Gates Pettebone, died July 28, 1854. Jane, born February 16, 1817, died December 7, 1829. Ebenezer Gay, born November 11, 1818, married Margaret Seagraves, died February 17, 1887. Benjamin Dorrance, born April 20, 1820, died October 16, 1820; Fisher, born January 1, 1823, died February 8, 1824. Mary, born February 14, 1825, married John Bartholomew; died June 28 1863. Esther M., born February 24, 1827, married Charles Hughes, died February 20, 1874. George Trucks, born October 25, 1829, and died March 9, 1849. Lucinda C., born April 6, 1832, married January 24, 1854 to Stephen Hill Pettebone, died August 25, 1916.

5. Marcia, born November 3, 1790, married May 10, 1807, to Samuel Thomas (hereinafter mentioned) and died July 24, 1865

6. Lucy, born September 12, 1792, married Colonel Erastus Hill and died January 12, 1842

7. Mary, born October 21, 1794, married Darius Landon, July 12, 1812; died January 19, 1869.

8. Nancy, born November 13, 1796, married Sylvanus Moore June 25, 1815; died May 14, 1888.

9. Noah born July 27, 1798, died December 11, 1866. Married November 30, 1820, Sarah, daughter of John Sharps. She died December 20, 1843. Their children were: Jacob Sharps, born September 17, 1821, married March 2, 1851 to Sarah Williamson, died December 27, 1895; Henry, born February 8, 1824, died November 4, 1826; John Sharps born, May 2, 1826, married Rachel Renard, February 5, 1850, died July 12, 1911; Stephen Hill, born August 11, 1829, married Janurry 24, 1854, to Lucinda Pettebone; died October 4, 1905., Martha Ann, born April 24, 1832, married Charles Myers March 29, 1853, and removed to Illinois, died Jauuary 23, 1884; George, born February 24, 1835, died October 12, 1836; Noah born August 5, 1838, married January 14, 1864 to Jane, daughter of George and Sarah White Renard; died November 16, 1912

Noah Pettebone married second Margaret Nice Speece, born November 3, 1811, and they were parents of the following children: Sarah Elizabeth, born November 13 1847 married Wesley N. Johnson December 31, 1906; Walter Speece, born December 21, 1852, married Stella Culver, July 1, 1872; died January 17, 1925; Harper Nice, born March 14, 1857, married Rhoda Smith, September 1883, married secoud, Augusta Bonham, January 14, 1886; died October 13, 1919.

10. Huldah, born February 14, 1801, died November 25, 1801.

11. Henry, born October 5, 1802, died May 5, 1861. Studied law with Garrick Mallery and was admitted to the bar August 3, 1825. In 1828, he established "The Republican Farmer and Democratic Journal" published at Wilkes-Barre. In 1830 he was appointed Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts. March 6, 1845, he was appointed Associate Judge of the Luzerne County Courts and served until 1849, when he resigned. He was at one time clerk of the Pennsylvania State Senate and in the fifties was extensively engaged in railroad contracting. In 1857 he became secretary of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad which position he held until his death which occurred in Kingston, May 5, 1861. He married in 1825, Elizabeth daughter of John Sharps, born September 30, 1803, died July 8, 1847, and they were parents of the following children: Martha, born July 9, 1826, married October 15, 1844 to William Streater, died July 29, 1869; Sarah, born March 12, 1828, died April 21, 1836; William S., born July 1, 1830, died April 15, 1847.

12. Martha born December 30, 1804, married John J. Adams, died February 26, 1838.

13. Stephen, born February 2, 1807, died August 5, 1810.

of the red men, rode easily on the Cohocton and the Chemung to Tioga Point, which was the southern door of the long house of the Iroquois.

There dwelt Esther, scion of the great house of the Montours, in whose veins, mingled the blood of the French and the savage Hurons. Queen of the clan, which guarded the forks of the great river, this dusky potentate, was an ill omen, over all the settlements from Wyalusing to Fort Augusta. To her lodge came not only her kin, the Montours, with Andrew and Catherine and Roland and John at their head; but a little later, there gathered there, the legions of Sayenqueraghta, the greatest Indian who ever lived.

Joseph Brant and the Mohawks, the sachems of the Onondagas, and the Cayugas and the savage warriors along the Genesee yielded readily, to the influence of the Johnsons and the Butlers, Indian agents of the Crown, and early cast their lot with the British cause.

Upon the fertile patches of lowland, here and there, up the river from Tunkhannock to Towanda, there lived a number of foreign families, some of them sent thither by the Proprietors of Pennsylvania to squat on the disputed lands; some of them poor adventurers from the Jerseys, attracted by the rumors of cheap land, or the lure of excitement in the troubled region. Held, in contempt and despised, by the proud and haughty Yankees, who lived on the better land in the Wyoming Valley, these people repaid contempt with hatred, and the men early in the war fled from their oppressors to Fort Niagara where they found asylum in the English army, and were enroleld in Butler's Rangers, or the Royal Greens.

These conditions should have been sufficient warning to deter the Yankees, from depleting their strength of men and arms but notwithstanding their perilous situation, their enthusiasm for independence overcame the dictates of caution, and the most vigorous young men, with the best rifles left Westmoreland and joined the Continental Army.

Obadiah Gore, Jr., early in the summer of 1776, recruited some twenty men, for the New York company of Captain Wisner; and Captain Strong enlisted a part of a company here.

Wyoming was the most exposed community on the American frontier. To the northward was the dense forest and the dark shadow of the oncoming scourge; the wild mountains, between it and the Delaware river, separated it from a refuge and the support of the settled communities of southern New York; and the Pennsylvanians, who dwelt over the mountains and at Fort Augusta, entertained no feelings of kindness toward the enemies who had dispossessed them of the choice land on the upper Susquehanna.

In the summer of 1776, Captain Elisha Swift of Kingston, representing the Westmoreland Settlements, went before the Board of War, with a proposal to raise a battalion here, with a major and four full companies, to guard the Wyoming frontier. It was not considered prudent, by the Board to take them away, and it was considered to be too great an expense, for the protection of the settlements and was rejected. Importuned by the Delegates from Connecticut, who feared the danger to their western colony, Congress at last was moved, and it was resolved August 23, 1776, to form two companies of the Continental establishment in the Town of Westmoreland, to be stationed in proper places for the defense of the inhabitants. Recruiting immediately began under Captain Robert Durkee of Wilkes-Barre and Captain Samuel Ransom of Plymouth.

The Kingston men in the company of Captain Durkee were: Asahel Buck, Second Lieutenant; Ensign Heman Swift; Corporal Edward Lester; Privates William Buck, Jr; Asa Brown; Frederick Follett; Asahel Jearums, died July 31, 1777; Seth Marvin; Stephen Pettebone; Aaron Perkins, discharged July 10, 1777; John Perkins, Jr., died July 6, 1777, Ashabel Robinson, died September 25, 1777; Luke Swetland, discharged January 8, 1778; William Terry; Parshall Terry, Jr., deserted January 11, 1777; John Tubbs; Samuel Tubbs; Edward Walker and Thomas Wilson.

The Kingston men in the company of Captain Ransom were: Sergeant Timothy Peirce, promoted Second Lieutenant January 17, 1778; Sergeant Parker Wilson; Privates Gideon Church; Nathaniel Church; William Kellogg, Jr.; Constant Matthewson, killed at Fort Mifflin November 1777; Elisha Matthewson, Stephen Skiff; John Swift; Constant Searle, Jr; Elisha Satterlee; Isaac Underwood, discharged for disability and Elijah Walker.

In each of these companies were about eighty four men. They were raised, solely for the defense of Westmoreland; and notwithstanding the original resolution, after Washington's retreat, through New Jersey, and the almost dissolution of his army, Congress in desperation resolved on December 12th, "That the two companies raised in the Town of Westmoreland be ordered to join General Washington with all possible expedition." Thus, was the feeble settlement, deprived of about one hundred and seventy men making the total depletion of the fighting force of the valley according to Colonel Franklin about two hundred and fifty.

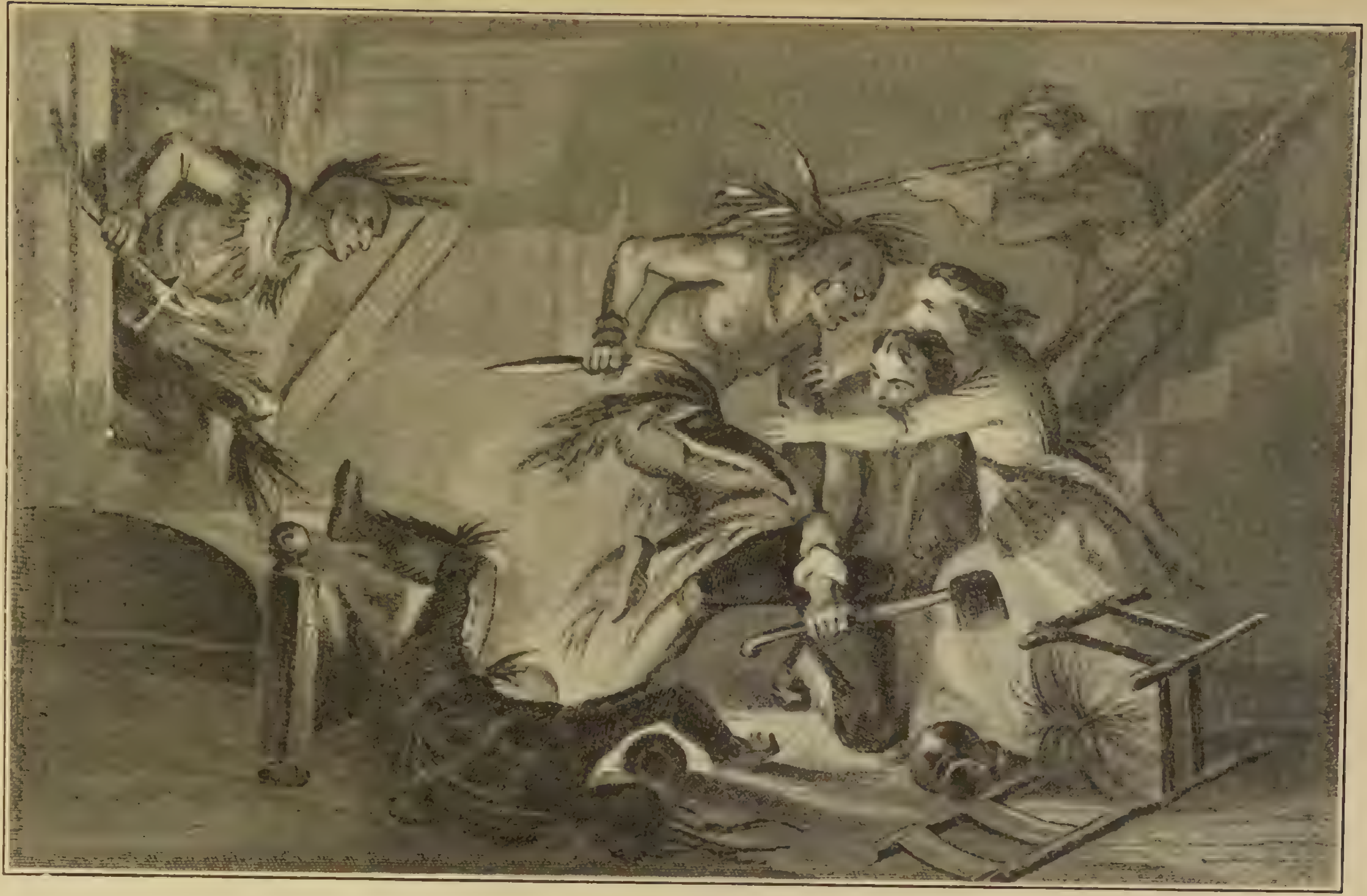
Rumors of an Indian invasion, during 1777, and the early part of 1778, were rife, and caused much apprehension in the depleted settlements and to add to their distress, smallpox broke out. Pest houses were established in each district half a mile from any road; and during this epidemic Captain Elisha Swift, one of the most prominent men of Kingston died.

During those years, the settlers eager for news, hired Prince Bryant, as post rider to make the trip every two weeks between Westmoreland and Hartford and bring in the Connecticut papers. This Prince Bryant, then a young man, was the first mail carrier in Northeastern Pennsylvania. He was a resident of Kingston Township and at one time owned House lot No. 18, where he probably resided. He was a native of Providence, R. I., a tanner by trade and first settled opposite Wyalusing in 1776. He sold his property in 1777. In 1781 he was living in Goshen, Orange County, New York, but subsequently settled above Athens where he owned six hundred acres and a grist and saw mill which he sold in 1798.

Since the settlement in 1769, the Indians had given the inhabitants no trouble. The Mohicans, in early times, had a settlement along the bank of Abraham's Creek and their chief, Abraham, gave his name to that stream and the extensive flats or plains to the north of it. The most notable Indian was however, Toby, who continued to reside in Kingston Township, after its settlement, and for a time was on quite friendly terms with the whites. He gave his name, to Toby's Creek, Toby's Eddy and Toby's Cave; the latter being on the hillside above the eddy and just below the Woodward breaker. Toby had some dispute with the English settlers about a cow, and this gave rise to considerable contention, and some correspondence between the Yankees and the Indians at Chocanut and Chenango.

The first Indian attack on any of the settlements was made August 15, 1776. Parker Wilson, who according to his affidavit made August 17th, stated that he lived seven miles west of Susquehanna river, in Kingston Township which would indicate that his settlement or pitch was somewhere over the mountain, was attacked. While walking in the woods near his cabin, he was suddently fired upon by an Indian. Running through the woods and dodging from tree to tree, he managed to elude the fire of his pursuers, and reaching his cabin, seized his gun, barricaded the door and made a spirited resistance. The Indians fired from behind trees and many shots were exchanged. There were four Indians in the attacking party and all were well armed. Many balls struck the cabin but the stout log walls protected the beseiged. Wilson, who was an excellent marksman, finally managed to either kill or wound one of the Indians; the others then withdrew, taking their injured comrade with them and Wilson escaped to the settlements in the valley. A relief expedition was sent out, but no more Indians were seen and the attacking party made good their escape. Colonel Franklin doubted that the attack was made by Indians and believed some evil minded persons disguised as Indians, made it.

Scouting parties, sent up the river, found that most of the Tories and their families had left for Fort Niagara and one of these expeditions was attacked, by the Indians and John Jenkins Jr., and some others taken prisoners. Pleas made to Congress, of the state of Wyoming resulted in a resolution on March 16, 1778, that one full company of foot be raised in the town of Westmoreland, for the defense of the town and the settlement on the frontiers, and in the neighborhood thereof; the men to find their own arms, accoutrements and blankets. Dethick Hewitt of Kingston was appointed captain of this company, Timothy Howe of Pittston was lieutenant and Nathaniel Gates of Kingston, sergeant. About fifty men were enlisted, (according to the statement of Ishmael Bennett, who married Captain Hewitt's widow). This company had its headquarters at Forty Fort, which had been improved and strengthened and was now the principal fortification above Fort Augusta. Its captain, Dethick Hewitt, was one of the principal men of Kingston



An Indian Attack on the Settlements.

Township. Timothy Smith, shortly before his death mortgaged to Dethick Hewitt, Meadow lot No. 7, Back lot No. 22 and House lots Nos. 24 and 25. Captain Hewitt married a daughter of Constant Searle, and his name appears in the Kingston tax lists in 1776; and in October 1777, he was commissioned captain of the Second Kingston Company in the 24th Regiment, Connecticut Militia, which position he resigned to accept this captaincy in the Continental Army. He led his company in the Battle of Wyoming and fell gallantly fighting at its head.

In the early part of June, William Crooks and Asa Budd went up the river scouting. The former, stayed all night, at the abandoned cabin, near Tunkhannock, of James Secord, one of the Tories who was now with the British at Fort Niagara. Budd hunted down the river by torch light, and when near the Secord house, he discovered a party of Indians. He warned Crooks who in attempting to make his escape was shot. William Crooks was the first victim of the Indians. He was a resident of Kingston Township. On February 27, 1776, Phineas Peirce sold one fourth of a proprietors right to William Crooks, and about that time he probably settled in the township.

A reorganization of the 24th Regiment, Connecticut Militia had taken place. Colonel Zebulon Butler was an officer in the Continental Army and many of the other early officers were in the war. In June, 1778, the officers of the Twenty Fourth were: Nathan Denison, Colonel; George Dorrance*, Lieutenant Colonel; John Garrett, Major.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEORGE DORRANCE was the son of Rev. Samuel Dorrance, born in Ireland, a graduate of Glasgow University, who came to Voluntown, Connecticut in 1723, where he was pastor of the church for many years. He died November 2, 1775, aged ninety years. His sons, John and George, came to Kingston Township. The former, born July 12, 1733, died January 7, 1814, never married. He was constable of Kingston Township and collector of taxes for Westmoreland. He was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of the town and valley and was the defendant in the celebrated case of Van Horn's Lessee vs. Dorrance, which is treated at length hereafter. George Dorrance was born March 4, 1736. He commanded a scouting party sent to Wyalusing, to rescue the Whig families residing there, from the Tories and Indians. He commanded the left wing under Colonel Denison in the Battle of Wyoming. While riding along the broken lines attempting to restore order, he was badly wounded. He was taken captive but the next day the Indians killed him and divided his arms and clothing among them. Colonel Dorrance was twice married. By his first wife he had two daughters, Sarah Susannah, who married Samuel Tubbs and Elizabeth, who married Dr. A. C. Whitney, December 21, 1809; and by his second wife had three sons: Robert, who was in Captain Ransom's Independent Company and later served in the Western Army, under St. Clair, being killed November 4, 1791, in battle. Gershom, who resided in Voluntown, Connecticut, and Benjamin born in 1767. His second wife and widow Elizabeth, married Jabez Fish. Benjamin Dorrance was elected Sheriff of Luzerne County in 1801 and soon thereafter one of the Commissioners of the County. In 1808, 1809, 1810, 1812, 1814, 1819, 1820 and 1830, he was a member of the legislature; and was the first president of the Wyoming Bank of Wilkes-Barre. He died August 24,1837. His wife was Nancy Ann, daughter of Jedediah and Martha Clark Buckingham; and they were parents of Rev. John Dorrance, The officers of the companies were:

First (Lower Wilkes-Barre Company): James Bidlack, Captain; Asa Stevens, Lieutenant; Daniel Downing, Ensign;

Second (Kingston Company): Aholiab Buck, Captain; Elijah Shoemaker, Lieutenant; Asa Gore, Ensign.

Third (Plymouth Company): Asaph Whittlesey, Captain; Aaron Gaylord, Lieutenant; William White, Ensign.

Fourth (Pittston Company): Jeremiah Blanchard, Captain, Timothy Keyes, Lieutenant; Jeremiah Bickford, Ensign.

Fifth (Hanover Company): William McKerachan, Captain; Roasel Franklin, Lieutenant; Titus Hinman, Ensign.

Sixth (Upper Wilkes-Barre Company): Rezin Gere, Captain; Daniel Gore, Lieutenant; John Hageman, Ensign.

Seventh (Exeter Company): Stephen Harding, Captain; Elisha Scovell, Lieutenant;

Eighth (Lackaway Company): Eliab Farnum, Captain.

Ninth (Up River Company): Captain, Robert Carr; Lieutenant, Nathan Kingsley.

Tenth (Huntington and Salem Company): John Franklin, Captain; Stoddard Bowen, Lieutenant; Nathaniel Goss, Ensign.

1st. Alarm Company, James Bidlack, Sr., Captain; Lebbeus Tubbs, Lieutenant; John Comstock, Ensign.

2nd Alarm List Company, Dr. William Hooker Smith, Captain; Flavius Waterman, Lieutenant; Elisha Blackman, Sr., Ensign.

In order, to properly understand, the frightful occurrences at Wyoming and Cherry Valley, something must be known of

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born February 28, 1800, who was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church Wilkes-Barre, for twenty-eight years. His daughter Emily Augusta, married Alexander Farnham, and another daughter, Margaret Stella, was the wife of Colonel G. Murray Reynolds.

The second son of Benjamin Dorrance was Charles, born January 4, 1805. He was a colonel in the militia and a commissioner of the Luzerne County prison for many years. He was the most successful farmer in Kingston Township, and was president of the Wyoming Bank from 1845 to 1892. His wife was Susan E., daughter of James Ford of Lawrenceville, Pa., and they were married August 28, 1845. They were the parents of the following children.

1. Benjamin, born August 14, 1846, was educated in the Presbyterian Seminary at Troy Pa., and at Wyoming Seminary. He graduated at Princeton in 1868, and was admitted to the Luzerne County bar August 20, 1870, and practiced his profession for many years. He was president of the Wyoming Commemorative Association. Mr. Dorrance married May 22, 1872, Ruth Woodhull Strong, daughter of Schuyler Strong of Bath, N. Y., and they were the parents of the following children: Anne, born June, 26 1873; Frances born June 30, 1877; Ruth born August 9, 1879; died February 13, 1895. (2) Maria L., born August 31, 1848, died July, 27, 1849; (3) Annie Buckingham, born May 6, 1850, married Sheldon Reynolds and died October 4, 1905; (4) James Ford, born April 19, 1852, was educated at Lehigh University, and was admitted to the bar at Meadville, Pa., where he practiced law for about sixteen years He was appointed colonel on the staff of Governor Hoyt. January 15, 1875, he married Elizabeth Dick, and they were the parents of the following children: Susan Ford, born February ,26 1876; Sturges D., born July 15, 1881; Charles, born March 12, 1883 (5) Charles, born August 2, 1854; (6) John born September 27, 1856; (7) Frank P , born January 8, 1859, died March 6, 1864.

the circumstances and persons, who shaped events toward those terrible tragedies. The Indian policy, of Colonial North America, was directed from the Mohawk Valley, through the Iroquois who exercised suzerain authority, over the other tribes. Early, in the eighteenth century, William Johnson, a young Irishman, born in Ulster, settled in the lower valley of the Mohawk. He had influential English connections and his wealth and power increased, until he exercised almost regal sway over the northern central part of the province of New York. His influence, among the Six Nations, was paramount and was always exercised for the benefit of the English crown, whose agent he became. He possessed, the wonderful adaptability of the Irish, and all their remarkable craft and cunning, in political intrigue. His character was well suited to deal, with an ignorant, simple, superstitious and cruel race, like the Indians. He knew, when to sacrifice principle for policy, thereby attaining his own ends. An anecdote well illustrates his remarkable adroitness. The Indians possessed a superstitious reverence for dreams, and one day an old chief of the Mohawks, who admired and coveted an elegant coat, trimmed with fine lace and worn by Colonel Johnson, remarked, that he had dreamed the night before that he owned and wore the coat, which the colonel had on. Johnson quick to divine the intent and desire of the red man, and knowing his belief in the potency of dreams, asked if the chief had actually and truly dreamed, as he had stated. Upon positive assurance, that he had, Johnson immediately removed the coat, and handed it to the Indian chief. Two days later in a conference with the same chief and his Indians, Johnson remarked, that he had had a very strange and wonderful dream the night before. He had dreamed that all the land around one of the Mohawk's small and beautiful lakes (which amounted to several thousand acres), belonged to him. The Indian chief inquired, if he had really and truthfully had that dream. Johnson positively assured him, that he had; whereupon the Indians solemnly deeded him the coveted land. But, when the transaction was completed, the old chief ruefully remarked that he would never dream with the colonel again.

At Johnson Hall, the seat of his vast domain, of thousands of acres, surrounded by scores of tenants, who tilled his lands and by a constant concourse of Indian retainers, whom he fed and lavished with gifts, he lived in a sort of barbaric splendor.

After the death of his wife, he lived in connubial felicity, if not lawful matrimony, with Caroline Peters, daughter of Abram Peters, a sachem of the Mohawks, and niece of old King Hendrick, the great chief of the Iroquois. She was said to be the most beautiful girl among the Six Nations, and she became the mother of three of his children. Upon her death in 1753, he admired her dashing and handsome niece, Molly Brant, sister of Joseph Brant who became the leading Indian of his time. This Molly Brant became his mistress and to her and his children by her he left a substantial part of his great estate. He constantly urged intermarriage, between the whites and the Indians; and by this policy hoped to enhance his power and prestige. With the assistance of the Iroquois, he helped to wrest Canada from the French; and his work among the Indians was always for the benefit of England. He sided with the Penns against Connecticut, in the Wyoming controversy and he looked with displeasure, upon the growing influence, of the Yankee missionaries, among the Indians.

Surrounding him, were a number of under-lords, like the Butlers, possessors of vast estates and considerable influence over the Indians. Their great landed properties, they administered in the baronial style of old England; and they had very little sympathy with the New England way which was democratic, and which they unconsciously felt in the end, would undermine their wealth and influence. Already the missionaries from Connecticut, Kirkland, Johnson and others, had penetrated the Iroquois' country; and were sending back, the sons of the Indian chiefs to Lebanon to be educated. They well knew, that these missionaries were the advance guard of the small farmers from New England, who would sooner or later drive them out.

Along the German Flats and in the Cherry Valley, German emigrants, from the Palatinate, had settled long before the Revolution. These people were somewhat similar to the New Englanders and were rigid Protestants who had fled from Germany for the sake of conscience. They were small farmers, industrious, thrifty in their ways and independent. Johnson had intermarried with them, his lawful wife being a daughter of one of these immigrants, and for many years he had great influence over them.

Shortly before the outbreak of the Revolution, he had however, imported a large colony of Catholics, from the Highlands of Scotland, whom he settled, as tenants on his land. The oncoming, of these people, aroused the suspicions of the German settlers, and somewhat displeased them with the conduct of the Johnsons. Sir William Johnson died shortly before the outbreak of the Revolution; and his son and successor, Sir John Johnson, by fortifying Johnson Hall and garrisoning it, with these Highland Catholics, completely estranged the German settlers who gradually went over to the Whig or American cause.

Johnson was succeeded, as Indian agent, by Guy Johnson, his nephew, who had married one of his legitimate daughters, and as assistant to him was Colonel Daniel Claus, who had married the other legitimate daughter. Sir John Johnson was his legitimate son and principal heir, but none of these possessed a small part of Sir William's great ability.

Not far away, however, there dwelt John Butler, a man of ability, integrity and energy, who to a certain extent became the successor to Sir William Johnson in influence among the Indians. He was the son of Walter Butler, said to be of Ireland, or Irish descent, who was settled in New London, Connecticut, as early as 1713. He removed to the Mohawk Region, and held an appointment in the Indian Department; and he possessed a large landed estate, the greater part of which descended to his son John. John Butler was evidently a favorite of Sir William Johnson; and in fact, the Butlers owed much of their wealth and prominence, to the support they received from him. In the French and Indian War, John Butler served as an officer over the Indians, under Sir William Johnson, and in the capture of Fort Niagara, he commanded the Indians engaged. He often acted as interpreter and agent among the Indians and became a man of great influence and consequence. At the outbreak of the Revolution, he owned thousands of acres in the Mohawk Valley, had nearly a score of tenants, and possessed large herds of cattle, many horses, a large flock of sheep and many swine.

We may get some idea, of the resources possessed by this barbaric nobility in Northern New York, when we learn that to entertain the Indians and others who feasted with him, Sir William Johnson annually slaughtered more than a score of oxen, a hundred swine and a hundred sheep, besides consuming vast quantities of game which the Indians brought in, and large amounts of cereals and fruits; while the consumption of beverages used a goodly portion of the products of his own distillery. At times, hundreds of Indians would gather at Johnson Hall, for a great talk with the colonel. Quarters near the hall were furnished them, and they all had to be fed. At the great feast, as many as a half dozen oxen were roasted and served, besides large numbers of swine and sheep. These were all roasted over open fires and the meat was served unsparingly to the hungry savages.

A particular favorite, of Sir William Johnson, was Joseph Brant. When a lad of fourteen years, Sir William sent him to Dr. Wheelock's school at Lebanon, Connecticut, where he was well educated. Brant became a man of great ability, and his intelligence was marvelled at in England. He was a religious instructor of the Mohawks, and promoted religion among them to a considerable extent. He translated some books of the Bible into the Mohawk tongue. In his character, there was strangely blended religious zeal and fiendish deviltry. Belonging to one of the principal Mohawk families, he early obtained an ascendancy over that tribe, and was the leader at Canajoharie, where he resided. At the outbreak of the Revolution, the Whigs in Tryon County, which embraced that particular portion of New York, were enthusiastic and aggressive. The great Tory leaders, feeling their coming doom were sullen and resentful. The Indians, uncertain which was the stronger side, at first were neutral. Joseph Brant, a beneficiary and servitor of the old system, leaned to the English; and early in the struggle fled to Montreal with Guy Johnson. From thence they went to England, where Joseph was dined and flattered by the English leaders, and came back to America, thoroughly imbued with the strength and justice of the British cause. He rallied the Mohawks and took up his headquarters at Oghwaga, a considerable village (now the site of Windsor, N. Y.) on the banks of the Susquehanna, where he gathered about him Mohawks, Tuscaroras, a few Oneidas, and the odds and ends of Indian life.

Up the river was Unadilla at the confluence of the Tindehera with the Susquehanna; an English settlement, peopled largely by patriot Whigs. Here were mills and comfortable dwellings. By 1777, these patriot families, Brant had completely expelled, and here he gathered about him the worst elements of the frontier. Runaway negroes, straggling Indians, half breeds, and all the outcasts of the wilderness flocked to his standard. Liberally supplied with rum, powder and shot by the British posts. they plundered the Whig settlements to the northward, of cattle and sheep, and swine, and horses, and lived bounteously on the fruits of their ravages. Contemporaneous writers, have pronounced Unadilla at this time, the seat of concentrated deviltry.

Brant entertained a terrible hatred against the settlers at German Flats and in Cherry Valley, because he believed, they had intruded upon and deprived the Mohawks of their choicest land. The Mohawks entertained no personal hostility, towards the Yankees settled at Wyoming; but the Senecas and especially Sayenqueraghta, their great war chief, had never approved of the Susquehanna purchase, and years before the Revolution, he had visited Hartford and addressed the Connecticut General Assembly, in condemnation of the activities of the Susquehanna Company. To him, the settlement at Wyoming was always the source of bitter resentment; and when his services and that of his people were finally enlisted in favor of the British, he cast a revengeful eye upon Westmoreland.

At Tioga Point, now Athens, was the southern door of the great long house of the Iroquois; and there had always been located an important village of the Indians. The principal personage there, at the outbreak of the Revolution, was Esther Montour. She was a daughter of old French Margaret, who was the daughter of Madam Montour as she was known in Colonial days. This Madam Montour, was said to be the daughter of Count Frontenac, French Governor General, by a Huron woman. At one time, she lived on the West Branch of the Susquehanna at what is now Montoursville and there she reared her numerous children who all became more or less prominent on the frontier. These half breeds were generally employed in the Colonial service, either by the Proprietors of Pennsylvania or by the Province of New York. They acted as interpreters, scouts and guides and were generally liberally rewarded for their work. There were Jean and Andre, whose services were much sought by Conrad Weiser; and there were also Henry and Lewis, both prominently mentioned in the Colonial records. French Margaret was the mother of Catherine, Nicholas, Esther and Mary Montour. Catherine Montour was of great prominence among the Senecas and lived in their country at a place called Catherine's Town. Another sister was Esther, known to history as Queen Esther. Over the clan, which resided at and guarded Tioga Point, she exercised despotic sway. Those who met her, pronounced her a remarkable woman. She was tall and of commanding presence. It is believed she could speak French, and she had considerable knowledge of Christianity and civilization. Before the war, had stirred deeply the passions of her savage soul, she was not the demon, history has represented her, but was a woman of some tenderness and sympathy.

Patriots, or Whigs, as they were called, overpowered and drove the Johnsons and the Butlers from the lower Mohawk. Those who rallied to the British flag gathered at Fort Niagara. This great fortification, first begun by the French and enlarged by the English, was situated at the mouth of the Niagara River on the American side. Here during 1777 and 1778, it was garrisoned by a considerable force of English regulars. John Butler as the most active and intelligent leader of the Loyalists, urged upon Guy Carleton, Governor General of Canada, the enlistment and employment of the Indians against the American settlements. But Carleton was a decent and humane man, and he long resisted these importunities.

There was a change in the administration of English affairs, and Lord George Germain became the directing head in London, and General Frederick Haldimand at Quebec as Governor General. Butler whose ability was esteemed both by Carleton and Haldimand, was finally authorized to raise ten companies of rangers for service on the frontier. These companies were to be recruited among the Loyalist settlers, and their pay was more liberal than that of the British regulars, some two shillings per day. Enlistments were promptly begun, and among Butler's chief lieutenants in this enterprise were Captain Walter Butler, his son, who had married Caroline, daughter of Sir William Johnson by Caroline Peters; Captain William Caldwell, who had left his family and friends in Philadelphia for the lurid life of the frontier; and James Secord, whose family resided on the Susquehanna near the vicinity of Tunkhannock. Through the influence of the Secords, most of those settled along the river from Buttermilk Falls to Towanda, left their homes and joined the British at Fort Niagara. These people, as heretofore stated, were not Yankees, but Germans, people from the Jerseys, and others who had originally come to the Susquehanna in the interest of the Proprietors of Pennsylvania. They were generally poor, most of them sort of outcasts of society, and they were more attracted to the British cause, by their hatred of the Yankees at Wyoming, and the high pay offered for British recruits, than by any sense of principle or conviction. The men joined Butler's Rangers and their women remained at Fort Niagara, living on the alms, distributed by the British officers. Among those who joined the Rangers were: Michael Showers, Frederick Anker, Jacob Anguish, John Pensil, Jacob Van Alstine, Jesse Pawling, Benjamin Pawling, Adam Bowman, Frederick Vanderlip, Henry Windecker, and William Pickard. Among other recruits of some importance to the British was Parshall Terry, Jr., a son of Parshall Terry, one of the first and most prominent settlers of Kingston Township. This young man was of considerable intelligence, and while the rest of his family were active and loyal patriots, he went over to the English. He was a member of Captain Durkee's Independent Company but early deserted, and finding that his friends and relatives in Westmoreland despised him for this act, he became one of the most embittered Tories. He joined the Rangers and served during the remainder of the war in their ranks. He took part in the battle of Wyoming, against his kinsmen, and was one of he first to enter Forty Fort at the time of its capitulation. Likewise, two other deserters, Thomas Hill and Thomas Green, joined the Rangers and bore a considerable part in the tragic events.

Augmented by the discontented Loyalists, who constantly gathered at Fort Niagara, Butler now with the rank of major, concentrated the Rangers at Tioga Point, where he was joined by Sayenqueraghta and the Seneca warriors. This tribe was the most numerous of the Six Nations and numbered at the time perhaps some two thousand warriors in all; but it is not probable that more than five hundred gathered for the expedition. There were probably about two hundred Rangers.

Joseph Brant remained at Unadilla and conserved his strength for the descent upon Cherry Valley and the Minisinks. Captain Walter Butler was a prisoner at Albany and took no part in the affair.

During May and June, the forces of the expedition were gathered together. Canoes were collected from the villages on the Chemung and on the Susquehanna, as far north as Oghwaga and Unadilla, and finally when sufficient supplies and equipment had been obtained, the force, numbering in all between five hundred and seven hundred fighting men,* together with a large number of squaws and hangers on, embarked in their canoes near Queen Esther's village on June 27, 1778, and floated down the Susquehanna. Some of the Rangers and Indians may have been mounted and these followed the Indian trail down the river and past Wyalusing.

This imposing little army, the greatest number of fighting men, ever before on the upper waters of the Susquehanna, encamped on the night of June 29th, near the mouth of Bowman's Creek. The next morning, they left their canoes at the Three Islands. From thence, they took up their line of march by a ravine, which runs through the mountain. First there were the companies of Rangers, armed with English muskets and well dressed in uniforms of green, trimmed with scarlet. These were followed by the savage Senecas, painted for the grim work of war and gaily attired in their blankets of many colors. This main body marched through the hills to a wooded flat back of Mt. Lookout in Kingston Township, where they bivouacked for the night, and prepared for the work of destruction.

Butler, before he left the Three Islands, dispatched a small scouting party of Tories and Indians, down the west bank of the river. This band, during the day, crept stealthily, along the wooded banks of the stream and sometime during the middle of the afternoon reached a point below Buttermilk Falls, where information was given to them by Michael Showers and Frederick Anker, two Tories, living in Wyoming Valley, who had left

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*Major Butler said he had about 500; Colonel Denison in a letter to Captain John Franklin said 600; and in his report to Governor Trumbull not to exceed 700 or 800 at most.

Fort Wintermute in the morning as spies; that some of the inhabitants of Exeter were working on their farms a little below. Anker and Showers, after revealing the whereabouts of the patriots went down to the farm of Stephen Harding, which was located little less than a mile above the mouth of Sutton's Creek, and where men were hoeing corn. One of the Hardings was standing guard. Showers and Anker, approached him and suggested, that they would stand guard and he could help the other men finish their work.

A little later Stephen Harding, Jr., went for the horses which were tied behind some bushes, and the party prepared to leave for home. They passed from the field, where they had been working through a little ravine, which runs toward the river; and while in it were suddenly fired upon by the Tories and Indians. Benjamin Harding and Stukely Harding were wounded, but they resisted the Indians and fought desperately for their lives. Using their rifles for clubs, they beat off their assailants, but were finally overcome and killed. John Gardner, who was unarmed, was easily taken prisoner. Stephen Harding, Jr., was at a distance in quest of the horses and he succeeded in running to the river and finally made his escape. A young boy named Rogers, who was with the party, also ran away.

A part, of this scouting band, had gone down the river to near the mouth of Sutton's Creek, where James Hadsall, Sr., had a small tannery. He was working there, together with his son-in-law, Daniel Carr and a negro named Quocko. These three men were surrounded and captured. On the island, which is a little above Ransom Ferry, another party was hoeing corn. Attracted by the commotion these men came ashore, and when they attempted to land were fired upon by the Indians. James Hadsall, Jr., was killed and Ebenezer Reynolds was wounded but he managed to escape, as also did David Wallen. A boy, John Hadsall, ran to the river and hid himself in the water near a large log. While there, one of the warriors came to the bank of the river searching for him and ran out on the log to which he was holding, but did not discover the lad who was screened, by some brush and reeds.

Following these attacks, the scouting party went up the ravine made by Sutton's Creek, to a point near the present village of Orange, where they kindled their camp fires, for the night. Having feasted themselves upon a steer captured from the Hardings, they spent the night in revelry and the torture of their captives. These were compelled to run the gauntlet; and James Hadsall, Sr., and the negro, Quocko, were subjected to the most revolting cruelties. Splinters were run in their flesh, their nails were torn off and they endured every torture, that barbarous minds could conceive. During the night they succumbed, and after the war, their bones which had remained above ground for years, were gathered up and buried.

The fugitives, who had escaped this marauding band fled during the night to Fort Jenkins, which was located near the present bridge in the now Borough of West Pittston. The news, which they brought was immediately sent to Forty Fort, where the Continental Company of Captain Hewitt was stationed. Messages were sent from Forty Fort to the other settlements in the valley, and on the morning of July 1st, Colonel Zebulon Butler and Colonel Denison mustered the men of the 24th Regiment, and with them marched up the river to the Harding settlement, where they came upon the dead.

Lieutenant Roasel Franklin in the advance, came upon two Indians, near the bodies of their victims. One of these, Zebulon Marcy shot dead and the other Lieutenant Franklin followed to the river, where he killed him with a club. Butler and Denison, with their force, then returned to Fort Jenkins, bringing with them the mangled remains of the victims of the massacre, which were interred the next morning in the old cemetery at the intersection of Wyoming Avenue and Linden Street in the present Borough of West Pittston.

During the day of July 1st, Butler with his Tories and Indians, remained inactive in the vicinity of Mt. Lookout. There, he set up the famous standard of the Rangers and established his headquarters. From the summit of Mt. Lookout he viewed during the day the beautiful valley, and the doomed settlements below. Forty Fort was plainly within his view, and he thus obtained complete knowledge of its location and strength.

When evening came, two of the Wintermutes, left their little fortification which was located at the present corner of Battle Avenue and Valley Street in the lower part of the present Exeter

Borough and stealthily in order to escape observation, made their way to Butler's headquarters on Mt. Lookout. Having made their report, they acted as guides for the Tories and Indians and led Butler and his forces through the ravine now known as Kintz's, to the vicinity of Fort Wintermute, where they made their camp for the night. A detachment went to the fort of which no defense was made, most of the inmates being Wintermutes, and Tories. Lieutenant Elisha Scovell, was in command and he surrendered the fort.

During the morning of July 2d, Captain Caldwell of the Rangers went to Fort Jenkins and demanded its surrender, which was complied with, articles of capitulation, being drawn up and signed by him, and John Jenkins.

During that day a scouting party under Captain Dethick Hewitt, was attacked in the vicinity of Shoemaker's Notch and Captain Hewitt was wounded in the hand. A soldier, named Finch was killed and scalped and another soldier, Daniel Finch, captured. That afternoon orders, were sent posthaste to Captain Franklin at Huntington to muster his company and report immediately to Forty Fort. Benjamin Harvey was sent with a message to Captain Clingman in command of Fort Jenkins below Berwick, requesting his assistance.

The night was one of terror. A constant stream of fugitives from the upper end of Wilkes-Barre, from Kingston and the other settlements poured into Forty Fort. Stores were hastily gathered and the frightened women and children hurried from their homes to the fortification. Cattle, sheep and swine were turned loose in the woods. The choice pewter plate was buried and hidden in wells. Ezekiel Peirce, now growing old, but who had kept with a firm hand for many years, the records of the Wyoming Settlements, bundled up his papers and books and maps into a strong chest; and these, the most precious possessions of the doomed settlements guarded by the faithful old man, who slowly trudged behind the creaking ox cart, were taken at dark to Forty Fort for security.

CHAPTER VII.

JULY 3, 1778

THE BATTLE OF WYOMING

The morning light, breaking from behind the Moosic Mountains, roused many valiant ones at Forty Fort, to the grim work of the day, who before the sun sank that night beyond Mt. Lookout, had perished in the most terrible tragedy of the Revolution. Within the confines, of the rude stockade, were the old and the young, and many who had been stricken down with a malignant fever, sick unto death. During the night, even those who lived in the cabins, which made up the Village of Kingston, surrounding the fort, had found a refuge within its walls; and crowded behind the palisade, when the drummer beat the reveille the morning of Friday, July 3rd., were not only Captain Hewitt's Continental Company, but the Kingston Company commanded by Captain Buck; a goodly portion of the First and Second Alarm List Companies under Lieutenants Lebbeus Tubbs and Flavius Waterman; and the Upper Wilkes-Barre Company, commanded by Captain Rezin Gere, who had been ferried over the river from their homes on the opposite shore, during the early morning hours.

An early arrival, not long after the break of day, was Colonel Zebulon Butler. With him, Colonel Denison, Colonel Dorrance Major Garrett and Adjutant Baldwin, who had remained at Forty Fort during the night, immediately went into conference, and it was determined, Butler should have supreme command. Early that morning, the British commander sent to Forty Fort, under a flag of truce, Daniel Ingersoll, a patriot, captured at Fort Wintermute, and escorted by an Indian and a Ranger, with a message, demanding the surrender of the settlements. According to Mr. Miner's account, the guards did not allow Ingersoll to say a word, to either Colonel Butler or Colonel Denison, out of their hearing. The demand was of course refused.

There were at the fort some volunteers, unassigned to any of the companies of the 24th Regiment, who were experienced soldiers; mostly members of Ransom's and Durkee's Companies, who when news, of the impending danger, to their wives and families came, yielded to the imperative demands of necessity, and absented themselves from the Continental Army. These men knew how to fight, and during the days engagement they were distributed among the companies to the best advantage. Most of the so called soldiers were, however, only farmer folk, old men and boys, untrained in the ways of war. The only discipline, which they knew was the little gained on training days, when the militia, met on the village green and after a few evolutions, spent the remainder of the day in feasting and revelry. With the strategy, of Indian conflict, these New England farmers and their sons were unacquainted, and most of their officers were inexperienced in the savage mode of warfare.

Toward noon, the beating of drums down the lower Kingston road, heralded the approach of reinforcements from Hanover and lower Wilkes-Barre, with the sturdy figure of Lazarus Stewart at their head. He had seen more Indian fighting, than any of them, and for more than twenty years, this dreaded man had been hated and feared by the savages from Onondaga to the Genesee. His renown gave him a singular prestige, and he wielded a dominant and fatal influence, over the farmer militia, that tragic day. He came only as a private volunteer among the Paxtang Boys, for Captain William McKerrican was in command, but their real leader was Lazarus Stewart. This horde, of hostile Senecas, roaming through the woods of lower Exeter and upper Kingston, and threatening the peaceful farmsteads and the lives of the women and children, had stirred the soul of the old fighter to its deepest depths, and we may well imagine his eye flashed, with the same fire, as when he hunted Indians on the upper waters of the Juniata, more than twenty years before.

There were now gathered at Forty Fort, or "Kingston Fort," as it was then generally known, all the available forces of Westmoreland, numbering about four hundred men. Within and about the stockade were several hundred helpless and panic stricken women and children. The farms from Campbell's Ledge to Nanticoke had been deserted, and horses, cattle and sheep turned loose, were now roaming in the woods, an easy prey to the lurking savages; while great fields of corn and winter grain, ready for the sickle, were doomed to destruction, unless the invaders were repelled.

These so called soldiers were mostly farmers, only interested in driving off the savages and resuming their peaceful avocations. The ripening wheat and rye, demanded immediate attention, and a fruitful yield of corn, permitted no delayed cultivation. The urge, of peaceful necessities, overcame the danger of precipitate action, in the minds of those simple men.

The militia resolved itself into a sort of town meeting, the New England way of doing things, and debated the advantages and disadvantages of immediate attack. Colonel Butler, Colonel Denison, Colonel Dorrance, Major Garrett and the prudent and foresighted men of the settlement advocated delay. They pointed out, that the proper course was for the women and children of the lower settlements, to remain in the stockades at Wilkes-Barre and Plymouth, and there be protected by sufficient garrisons; while the larger number gathered at Kingston Fort should be protected by the greater forces then assembled there. They said the strength of the fort was sufficient to repel any attack of the invader; that an incursion of the lower settlements by the Indians in any considerable force, while Forty Fort remained strongly garrisoned and undisturbed in their rear, was very remote. They pointed out that Captain Spaulding, with what remained of the united companies of Durkee and Ransom, was on the march to their relief, less than a hundred miles away; and that in a few days assistance might come from Fort Jenkins above Fishing Creek and even from Fort Augusta. Isaac Baldwin, sent that morning, by Zebulon Butler, was already galloping across the mountains with a message to the Board of War at Philadelphia; and it was hoped that his plea, there, might bring a formidable force of Continental soldiers to the valley within a short time. They argued, that they were uninformed as to the actual numbers of the invaders, but that there was a considerable force of disciplined and regularly enlisted English soldiers; and a large body of fierce and adroit Seneca warriors, experienced on many bloody fields; all ably officered, and commanded by the most skillful Indian fighter in the British service. To them, it was apparent, that to march, beyond the protection of the fort would be a perilous and rash adventure.

But, these prudent and convincing arguments were swept aside, and the dictates of reason overborne by the aggressive enthusiasm of Lazarus Stewart. Reinforced, by the younger and more adventurous leaders, he urged immediate action. He denounced the Indians, as a cowardly set, unable to stand regular and determined fighting, and proclaimed, that a few well directed shots, would send Butler and his crew skulking back to the headwaters of the Susquehanna.

It has been stated, that Lazarus Stewart charged Zebulon Butler and his officers with cowardice, and threatened that if they refused to order an advance, he would himself lead the settlers against the Indians. Even, if he did not venture, to argue and threaten so rashly, his best defenders do not deny that he was vehemently for action, and that hot words were uttered. The singular renown in which he was held, the boldness of his argument, and his appeal to the self interest of the farmers, and to bravery and passion, aroused the spirit of the mob and the vast majority, agreed with Lazarus Stewart, and determined to fight. Perhaps, his lofty disdain and contempt for the Indians, or the natural intemperance of his mind, led him into error. Although a man of indomitable bravery and intrepid spirit, he was never a safe and careful leader, and on this day, the climax of his wild career, he was mainly responsible for the most terrible tragedy of his time.

Shortly after one o'clock, the little army about three hundred men, with Zebulon Butler and Nathan Denison at their head, marched through the north gate of Forty Fort, out the village street of Kingston, (now River Street), to the Great Road; and with colors flying at their head, drums beating, and the fifers playing, the tune of St. Patrick, they moved onward, valiantly to their doom.

At the crossing of Abraham's Creek (near what is now the stone bridge), a halt was made and the little army deployed in line of battle, with the expectation that the enemy was coming down to meet them. It was at first determined to attack the British there, and thus prevent an assault upon Forty Fort, even if they had to await the succeeding day. Scouts returned with the news, that the Indians were burning the upper settlements, and it was supposed by some, that they were gathering in their loot and preparing to leave the valley. There must have been a halt of more than an hour at Abraham's Creek, and again Butler, Denison, Dorrance and the cautious men, were overborne, and a further advance determined upon.

When they arrived at Swetland's Hill near where the monument now stands, there was some further delay and it was, then, reported by scouts, that the enemy was in full retreat. There seems to have been reluctance to advance; and it is evident, while the general officers dared not oppose, the rash leaders of the men, they shrewdly and purposely delayed the march, probably hoping, that the enemy would advance, and that the battle might be fought nearer the fort.

In fact, Thomas Bennet boldly declared, they were marching into a snare and that they would be destroyed; and he left them at Abraham's Creek and returned to the fort. But being an old man, he was probably sneered at by the younger and bolder ones. Emboldened by rumors of fleeing savages, they again advanced.

Beginning at Swetland's Hill is a gravel ridge, in some places more than two thousand feet in width, and extending northward into Exeter Township. On the east side, nearest the river, the bank rises abruptly, some twenty feet above the fertile meadows; and it is now covered in many places with quite large oak trees, some of which, may have been shrubs, one hundred and fifty years ago. An extensive swamp skirted the western boundary of this ridge, and its dense shrubbery, then afforded an excellent lurking place for the savage warriors.

This ridge, then known as the upper part of Abraham's Plains, was covered by a growth of oaks and pines, forming a fine open wood. It was unsettled and uncultivated, but a path or road extended along the eastern bank into Exeter; and on this road the little force advanced, until it reached a point (according to Steuben Jenkins) near Fourth Street, in the present Borough of Wyoming, where Captain Samuel Ransom, Captain Robert Durkee, Lieutenant Perrin Ross and Lieutenant James Welles, detailed for that purpose, had marked the ground for line of battle. This was between four and five o'clock. The line formed from right to left. First: the lower Wilkes-Barre Company, resting upon the bank of the bluff, nearest the river, commanded by Captain James Bidlack, Jr., consisting of thirty-eight men; Second, the Continental Company under Captain Dethick Hewitt numbering between forty and fifty men; Third, the upper Wilkes-Barre Company under Captain Rezin Gere, less than thirty-eight men; Fourth, the Kingston Company under Captain Aholiab Buck; Lieutenant Elisha Shoemaker and Ensign Asa Gore, number unknown; Fifth, the Hanover Company, under Lazarus Stewart and Captain William McKerrican, numbering about forty men; Sixth, the Plymouth Company under Captain Asaph Whittlesey, consisting of forty-four men.

This regular force of six companies, numbered between two hundred and two hundred twenty-five men. Taking Colonel Denison's report, which must be accurate, that there were a little over three hundred engaged; there must have been about one hundred men, who were either general officers, members of the First and Second Alarm List Companies, the squad of men from Huntington and Salem under Lieutenant Stoddard Bowen, or volunteers. Colonel Zebulon Butler commanded the right wing and was supported by Major Garrett and Captain Robert Durkee. Colonel Denison commanded the left wing and was supported by Lieutenant Colonel Dorrance and Captain Samuel Ransom. These field officers were mounted.

When, the British Butler, observed the Americans were forming in line of battle, he fired Fort Wintermute and ordered Fort Jenkins burned. The heavy black smoke, from the burning fort and habitation of the Wintermutes, rolling above the tree tops, inspired the Americans, with the belief that the British were retreating. As Butler had designed, this deceived them, and quickened their advance.

With, the colors a homemade flag of stars and stripes, floating at their head, and the drummer boys beating a quick advance, the thin and feeble line, extending nearly two thousand feet, across the plain, moved quickly through the woods. The flanks, on either side, were unprotected; and the center unsupported by any reserve. The eastern bank of the bluff, curves away from the river and consequently the distance to the swamp being less, the American line closed up considerably at the point of conflict.

"When the Americans came in sight of the enemy, they were in a body about Wintermute's Fort, but they instantly formed a line across the plain, covered with trees and brush to a swamp on their right."

Major Butler, posted his men, in a fine open wood west of Fort Wintermute (and a little north of and parallel with the present Valley Avenue), and, for their greater safety, ordered them to lie flat upon the ground. The wary commander, the Americans faced that day, had had experience on many bloody fields. He had fought with the Indians at Lake George, had served under Abercrombie at Ticonderoga, assisted in the capture of Fort Frontenac, and had been chief in command of the Indians in the campaign against Fort Niagara. He had been one of the leaders in the battle of Oriskany; and to him more than to anyone, may be attributed, the terrible destruction and desolation of the American frontier.

Under him was Sayenqueraghta or Saengerachton, as Butler wrote it, the great war chief of the Senecas, and man of the greatest influence and consequence among the Six Nations. He was a large and portly man, of distinguished appearance, but growing old. Competent authority has proclaimed him, the greatest Indian who ever lived. He had fought, in the old French War, in the later struggle with France and only recently commanded his Indians on the bloody field of Oriskany. This day under him, were only the most cunning and experienced warriors of the Seneca Nation; selected with the greatest care for the work of this invasion and destruction. Over them were the most adroit war chiefs of their nation; such as Roland Montour, Sayenqueraghta's son-in-law; Governor Blacksnake; Captain Pollard; Little Beard, and Stuttering John Montour, who each commanded a band of skillful and unrelenting warriors. It, was a great event, for the Montours, for old Queen Esther, the hectoring fury of that foul day, was the dominating and ill omened genius of the savage horde.

Butler, having removed his uniform, and the insignia of his rank, and with only a black handkerchief tied around his head to distinguish him, took a position in the ranks of the Rangers and cooly awaited the conflict.

The Americans advanced to within six hundred feet of his line, when they began to fire. Deliberately advancing and firing by platoons, three volleys were discharged. The Rangers, being regular and well trained soldiers, remained quietly on the ground, they being principally in the line of the American advance, until it was within three hundred feet of them, when the Indians began the engagement on the right.

An Indian flanking party, on the American right, concealed in the brush along the bank of the bluff, were dislodged by Captain Hewitt's Company and driven back; but not until, they had wounded Lieutenant Daniel Gore and mortally wounded Captain Robert Durkee. The American right, being composed of the better drilled Continental Company of Captain Hewitt, advanced more rapidly. Soon after the Indians began the attack on the American left, the Rangers rose from the ground and those in front of the patriots fell back, in an orderly line, some little distance, and delivered their fire. They were pursued by Captain Hewitt's Company, who mistook this movement for a retreat, and thus it was, that the right got some thirty rods in advance of the left, so that the battle line was no longer parallel with its original course. The soldiers, in closest contact with the swamp, were some five hundred or six hundred feet nearer the Kingston Township line, than the right wing, when suddenly, the hideous war whoop of the Senecas, rang out from the swamp, and the savage warriors poured over the bank of the bluff, some little distance above the present Mt. Lookout breaker, and began the destruction of the American left wing.

Outflanked by the savages who were a considerable distance in their rear, Colonel Denison ordered Captain Whittlesey to wheel back, so as to form an angle to the main line, and thus protect the left flank. The Indian strategy, was the usual one, employed in rolling up a battle line which generally succeeds, when the flank is not properly protected. The western line was rolled up, and forced back on the center by the Indians in the rear; and the farmer boys,, unaccustomed to the blood curdling yelps of the savage warriors, were thrown into an indescribable confusion and panic.

The commands of the officers, to reform the line, had been mistaken for the order to retreat, and the fleeing soldiers of the left wing, not only carried the center with them, but they swept away the right wing as well. Colonel Dorrance, attempting to stay the forces of the left, was shot down, and thus disabled, fell into the Indians' hands. Colonels Butler and Denison were unable to check the flight, and Major Garrett was killed.

The only part of the line still intact, was held by the little regular force of Captain Hewitt. They received, the well directed fire of the Rangers, who after their slight retreat turned on them; and they repelled the British advance with spirit and determination. Confronted by the terrible disaster on the left, an officer said to Hewitt "The day is lost, see the Indians are sixty rods in our rear, shall we retreat"—"I'll be damned if I do," was his answer. "Drummer strike up," he cried, as he vainly strove to rally his men. Just then, a bullet struck him dead, and the last of the crumbling line gave way in a pandemonium of flight.

The engagement had lasted scarcely thirty minutes, from the time the first American gun was fired.

The massacre, which followed lasted twelve hours, and until the warriors glutted with their savage indulgence, ceased their terrible orgies, at the break of the coming day. The human anguish, of that awful night, and the blood of the slain consecrated the upper plains of Kingston to the hallowed cause of American Independence. The massacre, was the foul deed, of the British Empire; and is one of the blackest blots on the proud escutcheon of the English people.

Prisoners, taken under the sanctity of honorable surrender, were subjected to the most revolting cruelties, and had their living bodies literally torn to shreds, within the view, and upon a battlefield under the control of English officers. Butler was a man of sense, and his conduct as commander, in permitting his savage warriors to so cruelly torture his prisoners, is incomprehensible; and justifies the terrible odium in which his name is held; and gives verity to the story, that although the night was one of most horrible sights, he was a man of such cold and cruel heart, that he was unaffected, save by a sickening of his stomach, caused by the effluvium of burning flesh.

Evidently, but few of the Wyoming men had been killed in the actual battle. The British line had fallen back on the right, and there is little evidence, that the Rangers had done much execution. It was the Indians in the swamp, who began the engagement on the English side, and their opening fire was almost coincident with their flanking movement. In a very few minutes the savages swept clear across the plain some sixty rods in the rear, of what little remained of the American line, when Captain Hewitt fell. In the wild confusion, of panic which ensued, scores were taken prisoners. It is evident, that the whole left of the American line, plunged through the woods in a vain endeavor to escape by the road on the right; but that even this retreat was cut off by the cunning warriors, and encompassed on every side, dozens threw down their guns and surrendered upon promise of protection. It is a long distance, from where the battle line was formed, to the farthest point, the American line advanced, and yet on this, the actual battle field, few of the slain were found. Colonel Franklin stated "A short time after the battle, I examined the ground, and found a small number of bodies, lying on the line where the battle commenced."

"The body of Captain Samuel Ransom was lying near the ruins of Wintermute Fort, naked and scalped. Captain Aholiab Buck lay near him naked and scalped, with his head cut off. Captain James Bidlack, a short distance from the same place, had been placed on a heap of logs and brush, set on fire, and held with a pitchfork and burned to death. From appearance they all had been taken prisoners on their retreat, taken back and afterwards inhumanly murdered."

Two young lads, Roger Searle and William Buck, the latter only fourteen, a son of Asahel Buck of Kingston Township, and who had both stood manfully on the battle line, until the debacle began, fled from the field together. Hotly pursued, they dodged from tree to tree, and thus escaped the rain of bullets. They had nearly eluded their tormentors, and only one fleet footed savage remained in pursuit. He kept shouting "Stop! Boy! Stop! Me give quarter! Me give quarter!" Young Buck, nearly, exhausted and bewildered, trusting to the cries of the warrior, and his promise of protection, paused in his flight, and the savage overtaking him, seized him by the shoulder, and buried his tomahawk in the poor boy's skull. Searle who continued to run, escaped, but was so near, that he heard the sickening thud of the tomahawk, and the dying moan of his chum.

The fugitives made for the river, and the general course of their flight was toward Monocanock Island, which afforded an easier crossing of the Susquehanna. But, the woods literally swarmed with Indians. The better marksmen among them and the Rangers followed with their rifles, and these with unerring aim (evidently acting under orders), shot many of the Americans in the thigh, so that they could be easily captured and reserved for torture that night. The younger and more fleet footed savages pursued with spear and tomahawk. The Indians were grouped in six bands; and the blood curdling war-whoops of each band, and each different, echoing through the woods, augmented the awful panic. Anning Owen and Benjamin Carpenter, hiding in some bushes by the river, saw their neighbor, Lieutenant Elijah Shoemaker, reach the bank and attempt to cross the river. He was accosted by Henry Windecker, a Tory, who had often worked for him and fed at his board. "Come out, come out", said he, "You know I will protect you." Windecker reached out his left hand, as if to assist the much exhausted man up the bank, and then with his right hand dashed his tomahawk into Shoemaker's skull. His lifeless body floated down the river past Forty Fort, the next day, where it was recognized and buried.

Giles Slocum escaped to Monocanock Island, and buried himself in the sand and bushes. He was pursued by the Indians, and they made a diligent search for him, but instead found a more unfortunate man. They were so near he could see every thing, and hear every word and he hardly dared breathe, so great was his terror. The captured man begged piteously for his life, but after tormenting him a few minutes the savages cruelly slew him.

Jeremiah Bigford jumped into the river, hotly pursued by a warrior, who thrust at him with his spear, but Bigford dashed it from his hand, and seizing him by the neck, forced him under the water, where he would have drowned. Just then, another husky savage pounced upon Bigford and ran him through with his spear.

Lieutenant Daniel Gore who had been wounded at the beginning of the engagement, hid himself in the brush on the steep bank near the road, and although most of the enemy passed by him in their savage pursuit, remained undiscovered and that night escaped. Solomon Bennet plunged into the river and swam upon his back. The Indians fired upon him repeatedly, but accurately watching their motions, he was always able to avoid the balls, by dropping his head under the water at the moment they fired. The Indians seemed to enjoy the sport indulging in a hearty laugh, whenever young Bennet arose after dodging the ball. He reached the island, and there saw a naked man in the bushes who was Matthias Hollenback Bennet divided his clothes with him, and the two, after night, made their way to the fort at Wilkes-Barre.

Colonel Butler was accompanied by a number of his men, among them Rufus Bennett, who becoming exhausted, to assist him in his flight, grasped the tail of Butler's horse. They were pursued by a band of savages, one of whom was gaining on Bennett, at the tail of Butler's horse. All this commotion, aroused Richard Inman who having indulged in too much whiskey had dropped out of the line, on its advance, earlier in the afternoon, and since had been resting himself, in a corner near Swetland's Hill. Upon the approach of the fugitives, Inman roused himself and taking in the situation, raised his rifle, and with deadly accuracy, brought the foremost Indian down. The other pursuers, daunted by Inman's marksmanship, turned about in their tracks and Colonel Butler and his party, made their way unmolested to Forty Fort.

Lieutenant Lebbeus Tubbs, lying in concealment near the river, saw William Hammond of Kingston Township, attempting to swim to the island, when he was hailed by one of the Tory, Secords and promised protection. Hammond, who knew him well, trusted him and returned, but Secord killed him with his hatchet and threw his body back into the river.

Cyprian Hibbard and Samuel Carey fled, through a field of rye to the river and Hibbard, who broke down the rye to make a path, thereby became exhausted and was overtaken and killed by an Indian. Carey got to the Island, but was there taken prisoner and would have been killed by a malicious savage had it not been for Captain Roland Montour, who took him under his protection. They brought him back to the Kingston side, and left him bound during the night near Fort Wintermute. In the morning, Captain Montour, came to him and took him to a young Indian who was mortally wounded. The dying warrior, at the solicitation of Montour, consented to Carey's adoption by his parents, whereupon his face was painted and he was given the dying warrior's name.

Among the Rangers, was a Wyoming Tory, named John Pensel. His brother, Henry, fought with the Americans that day, and toward night escaped to Monocanock Island, where he hid himself behind a fallen tree. John was one of the pursuers and during his quest, discovered his brother's hiding place. "So it is you," he said. Henry fell upon his knees and begged his brother to spare his life. "You won't kill your brother will you," he said. John stood upon a fallen tree with his rifle pointed at his brother. "Yes" he replied with a sneer. "I would as soon kill you as look at you. You damned rebel." He then pulled the trigger, and to make sure his brother was dead, struck him with his tomahawk, and scalped him. Another Tory came up, and observing what he had done, said "What have you been doing, you have killed your brother." Pensel replied, "Yes, he was a damned rebel," but the other who was disgusted said, "I have a great mind to serve you the same." This is the terrible and celebrated story of "The Fractricide of Wyoming."

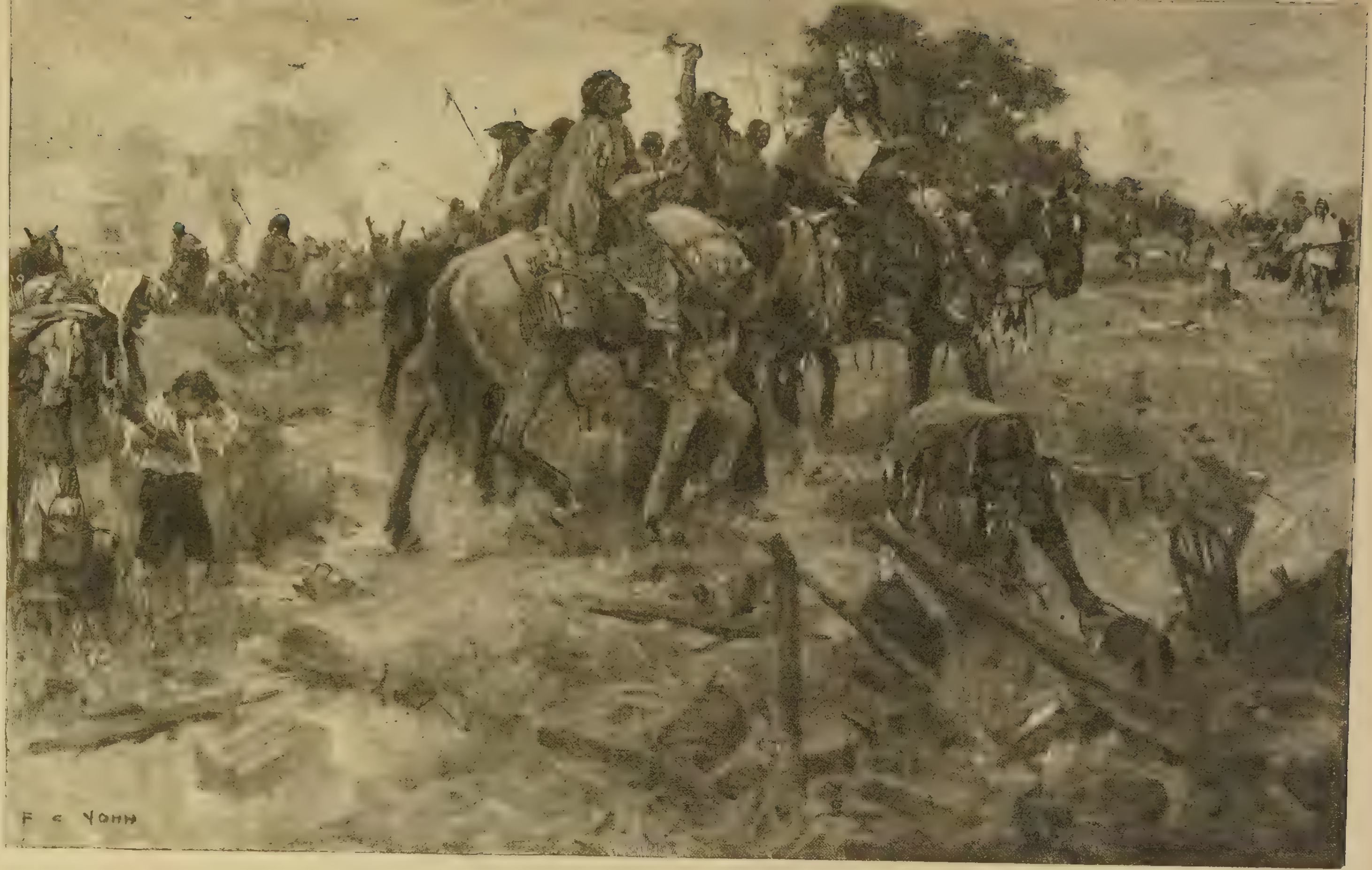
When darkness came the pursuit ceased, but the night was one of awful despair and anguish to the captured ones. Bands of savages, gathered round their lighted fires, and their unfortunate captives were subjected, to the most revolting cruelties Some were burned at the stake. Others were given a lingering death, by having their bodies pierced with many spears; some unfortunates had their arms and legs torn from their sockets, while they still lived. Butler proudly reported to his masters at Fort Niagara that only five of his prisoners were spared, and "such as were in arms, to those indeed the Indians gave no quarter."

That night Ishmael Bennett on the Pittston side, went down to the river bank, and there he saw on the Kingston shore, naked white men, being driven around a fire and the savages, following with their spears. He could hear the cries of agony and despair, and the terrible chant of the death dance. "It was a dreadful sight."

The most terrible holocaust was at the Bloody Rock. Some fifteen or sixteen had been captured, in a body, and these were grouped around the boulder, an Indian holding each one down. Old Queen Esther, it is said, infuriated by the death of her son, who was killed by Zebulon Marcy, at the scene of the Harding massacre a few days before, was the executioner. This foul fury of a woman, danced around the ring to the right, and as she chanted the death song, did the dreadful deed. Each was a victim in his turn, and the doomed man had his head pressed upon the rock by two stout savages, while the old squaw dashed out his brains, with a great maul. As she proceeded, she became more enraged, and the terror of the captives, increased. In that fatal ring, was Lebbeus Hammond, whose home was in the upper part of Kingston Township. Realizing there was no hope, but in escape, and that he might as well die fighting, as to tamely submit, Hammond who was a strong man, suddenly flung aside the Indian who was holding him, sprang to his feet and dashed down the steep bank. Tomahawks flew, Indians yelled and rifles cracked but Hammond escaped. Fourteen bodies were found, about the bloody rock, stripped and scalped and left lying in the ring, with their feet towards each other.

General William Ross in his statement, says there were nine bodies, about another ring from which Joseph Elliott escaped in a similar manner. Mr. Miner says, it was at the Bloody Rock, "Queen Esther raged like a demon. He saw six or seven murdered. The confusion, the savage yells, the moans of his dying friends, the streams of blood, the scattered brains, for a moment stupefied him. With a ray of returning reason, he saw death almost in a moment certain, and he could not die. With the might of combined courage and despair, he threw off the Indians who held him, and at a spring leaped down the bank, turned off to the right, and at a bound cleared a fence and fled to the river."

At day break, the tired Indians satiated with their indulgence in blood, nodded and smoked round their camp fires,



Retreat of the Indians After the Surrender of Forty Fort.

while some of them (statement of Elisha Harding) could be seen "fixing their scalps on little bows made of small sticks, and with their mocassin awl, and a string, were sewing them round the bows and scraping off the flesh and blood and carefully drying them." Mrs. John Jenkins visited the site of the massacre, the next morning, and was escorted over it by the Tory, Philip Wintermute, who said to her, "Look, but don't seem to see." She said the dead, lay all around and there were places where half burnt legs and arms showed, the cruel torture our people must have suffered."

The life of Colonel George Dorrance had been spared, during the night by the Tories and Indians, and although seriously wounded, while attempting to rally his troops, when the flight began, he probably had a chance of recovery. There was no pity, in the saving of his life, during the night; the Indians only having, the mercenary motive of ransom in view. With this purpose, during the following day, two Indians started with him for Forty Fort. About a mile from the field, he became exhausted from his wound, and was unable to proceed farther. The Indians stepped aside and consulted and then put him to death. They divided his possessions, one taking his scalp and sword, the other his coat and cocked hat. His was probably the last life taken in the Wyoming Massacre.

CHAPTER VIII.

JULY 4, 1778.

SURRENDER OF FORTY FORT

DESPAIR OF THE SURVIVORS—THE BRITISH AND INDIANS ENTER THE FORT—ARTICLES OF CAPITULATION—PLUNDERING BY THE INDIANS—KINGSTON RECORDS DESTROYED—REMINISCENCES OF MARTHA BENNET—ESCAPE OF CAPTAIN FRANKLIN—ABEL YARRINGTON AT THE FERRY—FLIGHT OF THE FUGITIVES—MANY PERISH IN THE SHADES OF DEATH—GENERAL PANIC ON THE FRONTIER AND THE "GREAT RUNAWAY".

Lieutenant John Jenkins, Jr., had been left in command of Forty Fort when the little army marched forth. With him were left a few old men, but among them were some of the leaders of Westmoreland, including Captain Obadiah Gore, Captain William Gallup and Thomas Bennet. It was an afternoon of hope, anxiety, confusion and despair. John Jenkins was a resolute man and one of high intelligence, and he must have had strong misgivings of the outcome and fully realized the responsibility and difficulties of his task. It was his duty to prevent a panic, among the terrified women and children, huddled within the huts, about the inner walls of the stockade; and take whatever measures were possible to guard the fortification. The sound of the first volley fired by the Americans on Abraham's Plain was plainly heard at the fort, and so was the second and third, and the return fire of the British Rangers; and the hopes of the waiting ones increased as the loud and regular firing continued. But, this was followed by irregular and scattered shots, the sound of which was more distinctly heard at Forty Fort, and it was realized that the battle had been fought and lost. Thomas Bennet paced the river bank above the fort, and when the sound of scattered firing was borne to him, knew that his judgment had been vindicated; and that the Americans had marched into the snare, as he had prophesied. Between five and six o'clock, the first of the fugitives arrived and the worst of the fears were confirmed. Soon Colonels Butler and Denison came, and with them a little band of survivors. These were followed by about fifteen of Captain Hewitt's men, who had evidently banded themselves together and fought their way from the bloody field. During the night, fugitives continued to make their way to the fort.

Sentinels were placed, the gates were closed and scouts were thrown out along the river and to watch the paths which led from the battle field, for it was expected that the enemy, flushed with their victory, would make an immediate descent on Forty Fort. All night, fugitives continued to come in; and they brought some meagre news of the terrible ordeal of the survivors, and the devilish carnival of cruelty and murder on the bloody plains. The anxiety and anguish of the wives and mothers and children and the utter hopelessness and despair of the helpless ones, gathered at Forty Fort, is beyond power to tell. The suffering and terror of the innocent ones in a besieged town or fortress, who fear captivity, or death, is the cruelest curse of war and one of the sublime tragedies of history. The oncoming of the ruthless soldiers and the streams of helpless and hopeless fugitives, which precede their invasions, are the most heart-rending episodes of the ages. What must have been their thoughts, the pain, the grief, the sorrow of that awful night to those who knew that their loved ones, father, sons, husband and brothers, were suffering the torture and anguish of the tomahawk, scalping knife and stake. And what must have been their despair when they contemplated the morrow and the almost inevitable destruction of the fort; and their own terrible deaths or captivity at the hands of the most ruthless, cunning, cold, and cruel foe known to history. The only encouragement that awful afternoon and night, was the arrival at twilight of the men of Salem and Huntington with John Franklin at their head. This resolute man with his commanding personality, thenceforth was the mainstay of Colonel Denison through the tribulations which followed.

The coming of the day brought some sense of relief, for the human mind is wont to ascribe greater danger to darkness than to light. Early that Saturday morning, Butler sent a message to the fort demanding the surrender and a little later Colonel

Denison accompanied by Obadiah Gore and Dr. Lemuel Gustin, rode to Fort Wintermute and had an interview with Major Butler, who promised protection of the inhabitants and of the surrendered militia; but insisted that Zebulon Butler and all the Continental soldiers be surrendered as prisoners of war. The terms not being agreed upon Colonel Denison immediately repaired to Wilkes-Barre and warned Colonel Butler of the danger to himself and his fellow Continental soldiers. It was, then, agreed upon that they should all immediately leave the valley, which was done, Butler going over the mountains with his wife and son to Fort Allen, and the soldiers down the river to Fort Augusta.

Shortly after noon, accompanied by Rev. Jacob Johnson and Zerah Beach, Colonel Denison returned to Fort Wintermute and having first informed Butler that all the Continental men had left the valley, negotiations were resumed and it was determined that Forty Fort should be surrendered at four o'clock that afternoon. These men then returned to the fort and preparations were immediately begun for its capitulation. All the guns and accoutrements of war were collected and piled in a heap in the center of the enclosure. Some of the surviving militia were formed in line and headed by Colonel Denison and Captain Franklin, they marched up the village street of Kingston, a short distance and awaited the enemy. These approached by the Great Road in two columns, four abreast, to the strains of martial music, and preceded by the British standard bearer, who bore the famous colors of the Rangers, a flag eight feet long by five feet four inches in width, buff in color, upon which was borne the red cross of St. George extending to the four edges of the standard, and covering a large part of its surface and in each of the four corners, formed by the Cross, having triangular designs in blue. Butler was at the head of the column of Rangers on the left, and Queen Esther at the head of the Indian column on the right; and escorted by Denison and Franklin and the little band of patriots, they marched into the fort through the north gate. But, the column of Seneca warriors led by Sayengueraghta, separated from the main force and entered Forty Fort in like formation, but by the southern gate. The large and commanding figure of the great chief, his imposing personality, the flash of his brilliant eye, and his apprehensive glance, now to the right, now to the left, as he led his warriors into the fort dominated the attention of the spectators, and was long remembered.

The Tories seized the fire arms, but were immediately commanded by Butler to lay them down. He then turned to Sayenqueraghta and informed him that Colonel Denison, gave them to his warriors; and the Indians much pleased took them into their possession. Colonel Denison and Major Butler then entered the cabin of Thomas Bennet. They were accompanied by Captain John Franklin, Dr. Lemuel Gustin, Captain William Caldwell of the Rangers and Captain John Johnson of the British Indian department, Sayenqueraghta and one or two other Indian chiefs. Zerah Beach, Esq.,* then sat down at a little round table, which is now the relic of greatest interest in the rooms of the Wyoming Historical Society, and drafted the following paper.

"Westmoreland, July 4, 1778.

Capitulation made and completed between Major John Butler on behalf of His Majesty, King George the 3rd. and Colonel Nathan Denison of the United States of America.

Article 1st. That the inhabitants of the settlement lay down their arms and their garrisons be demolished.

2nd. That the inhabitants are to occupy their farms peacably and the lives of the inhabitants preserved entire and unhurt.

3rd. That the Continental stores be delivered up.

4th. That Major Butler will use his utmost influence that the private property of the inhabitants shall be preserved entire to them.

5th. That the prisoners in Forty Fort be delivered up and that Samuel Finch now in Major Butlers possession be delivered up also.

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*ZERAH BEACH, was in Wyoming at the time of the battle in 1778, in which he fought. Colonel Franklin calls him Zerah Beach, Esq.,and he may have been a lawyer or have had some training as one. At any rate he was the one chosen by the American and British Commanders to draw the Articles of Capitulation, which would indicate that he was the most competent man in either force to draft an important legal document. He lived in Amenia Precinct, N. Y. in 1787, and after 1790 removed to Ballston, Saratoga County, N. Y. He was engaged in mercantile pursuits while living at Ballston. His wife was Lucy Stevens and they had two sons Zerah Jr., and Miles, and probably a daughter Cynthia who married Oliver Helme.

6th. That the properties taken from the people called Tories up the river, be made good; and they to remain in peacable possession of their farms, and unmolested in a Free Trade, in and throughout this State as far as lies in my power.

7th. That the inhabitants that Colonel Denison, now capitulates for, together with himself, do not take up arms during the present contest.

Signed,

NATHAN DENISON,
JOHN BUTLER.

ZERAH BEACH, LEMUEL GUSTIN,
JOHN JOHNSTON, WILLIAM CALDWELL."

This document being read and approved, a duplicate was made by Mr. Beach and both copies being duly signed and witnessed, the surrender of Westmoreland was complete.

Although Butler had solemnly promised otherwise, plundering immediately began. The Indians ransacked the cabins, broke open chests and donned the clothing of the inhabitants. Old Queen Esther took a fiendish delight, in this hour of triumph and on entering Forty Fort with a malicious grin said "Well, Colonel Denison, you make me promise to bring more Indians". "Here, see", turning her head, "I bring all these." Major Butler observed to her, that women should be seen and not heard. Colonel Franklin in his account says "Major Ezekiel Peirce complained, that the Indians had broken open his chest and were destroying his books. The Westmoreland records were given up and saved, but all the records of Kingston, containing the surveys and the division of the land in the township, with all Peirce's private papers were destroyed.

"Major Butler professed to have his feelings injured, at such conduct and reprimanded the Indians, saying that he had pledged his honor that the property of the inhabitants should be preserved entire; that by their plundering, his promises were violated; that if he had known, that they would have conducted themselves in that manner, he would have marched them off immediately after the battle and never taken possession of the fort. Complaints were renewed and Major Butler, turning to one of his chiefs, said 'They are your Indians, you must stop them from plundering.' The chief withdrew and in a few minutes returned, saying that he could not stop them, that they threatened to tomahawk him. Major Butler observed, that he was sorry, but that after a successful battle the Indians would not be commanded."

The chief crime of Butler was in leading, and of the British government, in hiring and maintaining such an irresponsible and ruthless band of slayers.

Before dark, the enemy withdrew in a body to Fort Wintermute, but about thirty or forty straggling Indians and Tories, remained to the great annoyance and misery of the inmates of the fort. Martha Bennet (Mrs. Myers) said "The Indians were now worse than ever. They came into our house and a stout Indian claimed Colonel Denison's hunting shirt, a very nice one, made of fine forty linen, with a double cape, fringed around the cape and wrists. The colonel objected; but upon the Indian raising his tomahawk, and mother begging him to give it up, he consented. While he was unbuttoning the wrist bands, the colonel stepped back and Polly Thornton, who sat by me, received a package of money from his pocket. It was the town money in Continental bills; and it afterward did the needy much good."

Captain Henry, an old Indian who had lived upon terms of intimacy with our family, and who was a prisoner in the fort when it was given up, came in with father's fine broadcloth coat on, which had been taken from the chest. He demanded, "Where, old Bennet." Mother replied, "Gone through the swamp to Stroudsburg." "Ah! says he, stroking his sleeve, "Me old Bennet now."

A filthy squaw undertook forcibly to deprive Mrs. Bennet of one of her garments, but the resolute Yankee woman with her clenched fist felled her to the ground, she rose and grappled the white woman but was beaten off. Her friends were very apprehensive for the safety of Mrs. Bennet. What would the Indians do, who had grimly watched the scrimage, tomahawk the white woman? But all fears were dissipated by the roar of laughter from the savages and one of them patted her on the back and said, "Good Squaw! Good Squaw!"

Mrs. Meyers continues, "They took our feather beds and ripping open the ticks, flung out the feathers and crammed in their plunder, consisting mostly of fine clothing and throwing them over their horses, went off. A squaw came riding up, with ribbons, streaming from her head to her horses tail. Some of the squaws would have on two or three bonnets, generally backside before. One rode off astride of mother's side saddle. That too, wrong end foremost, and mother's scarlet cloak hanging before her, being tied at the back of her neck."

Before daylight Sunday morning, Colonel Franklin succeeded in escaping from the fort and with four others fled to his home in Huntington. When they reached Ross Hill he said "We looked back and saw the smoke of the buildings following us down from Kingston fort. The smoke also rising from the buildings in Wilkes-Barre. We passed down through Shawnee which was deserted by all its inhabitants. We had passed through but a short distance when we discovered that the fire was following us. The whole of the settlements were laid in ruins as speedily as the enemy could spread the fire."

During Saturday night and Sunday morning, nearly all quitted Forty Fort and as the inhabitants of Wilkes-Barre and Plymouth and the lower towns had mostly left immediately after the battle the valley was practically deserted.

Abel Yarrington* who ran the Northampton Street ferry, was busily engaged day and night in getting the fugitives over, and when the last of the fleeing ones had been rowed across, with smoke of burning buildings rising all about him, thought it was time for himself to leave. Summoning his wife and family, he placed them with a few articles of clothing and bedding and food upon his flat boat, and rowed out into the current and started to float down the river to Fort Augusta. He had hardly made the bend in the river at Toby's Eddy, when he saw the smoke rising from his burning house, set on fire by a band of prowling Indians.

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*ABEL YARRINGTON, was born about 1739, at Norwich, Connecticut, and died June 30, 1824. He came to Wyoming Valley in 1772, and operated the Northampton Street ferry at the time of the battle in 1778. He purchased, February 16, 1789, a lot of James Atherton, and resided on the Kingston side. In 1799, he was licensed as a tavern keeper. His residence stood on the bank of the river on the northerly side of Northampton Street and there he kept his tavern. His wife Rebecca was born October, 1751, died March 27, 1808. Their children were: 1. Lucinda, married Arnold Colt; 2. Peter born January 13, 1770, died November 26, 1826, father of Dilton Yarrington of Carbondale; 3. Rebecca born 1775 died July 26, 1844, married Seth Wilson; 4. Luther, born 1778, died December 25, 1836.

During Sunday, Colonel Denison left Forty Fort and went down the river to Fort Augusta from where he went across country to Fort Penn and there on July 28th, he wrote his report to Governor Trumbull.

The last to leave Forty Fort were James Sutton and Dr. Lemuel Gustin and their families. They took boards and timbers from deserted cabins and built a large boat which it took them nine days to complete and upon this embarked with their families and belongings and floated down the Susquehanna as far as Middletown, where the family of Mr. Sutton remained for more than two years; Dr. Gustin going to Carlisle where he remained and practiced medicine.

The indescribable panic and flight which followed the battle of July 3d, have been much dilated upon by writers in both America and Europe; and the graphic description attributed to the celebrated Edmund Burke of the terrible events of that and succeeding days with its many exaggerations and misstatements, profoundly influenced the minds of humane Englishmen against the American War; so that, in one sense the Battle of Wyoming may not have been fought in vain. Fear is the most terrible emotion of the mind. It unhinges understanding, renders senseless all action and paralyzes human reason. Even before the last guns were fired at Wyoming, and when it was first dimly realized that the battle was lost, the more timid ones prepared for immediate flight. That night Colonel Denison and Captain Franklin determined upon a stand at Forty Fort. Messengers were sent out ordering the inhabitants to repair to Kingston. A detachment went for the cannon at Wilkes-Barre; and Franklin sent a man to Huntington for powder. But it was too late, even then the exodus had begun and before morning had become a general flight. Women and children were fleeing everywhere. By morning the paths were crowded with fugitives and this continued during the next two days. They fled from the upper settlements by the road over Cobb's Mountain to the Delaware and swept along with them in their panic the entire colony on the Wallenpaupack, never stopping until they had reached Goshen and Newburg on the Hudson. By the old Warriors Path, over a hundred helpless women and children in one band with a single man, Jonathan Fitch, High Sheriff of Westmoreland County, to guide them, plodded their

Flight of the Fugitives Through the Shades of Death.

weary way to Gnadenhutten and the friendly German settlements over the mountains. The path through the gap in the mountains and by the Great Swamp was literally lined with frantic fugitives. Mothers with babes at their breasts and little ones trailing on behind half ran as they pushed their way along the dismal trail and through the terrible "Shades of Death." Aged men and women stumbled and fell and perished in the mountain fastness, unable to keep pace with the frenzied march. Every recruit from the valley who joined the fugitives brought a new tale of the atrocious tortures on Abraham's Plains, and inspired the exhausted multitude to fresh exertions of escape.

While not a woman or child had perished at the Indian's hands, and none of the men were slain after the surrender; nevertheless all were seemingly possessed with the belief that immediate slaughter or captivity was their lot; and this terror, as is general in cases of panic, persisted and increased, the farther the fugitives got from the place of danger. Night added to the awful situation. Feeble persons stumbled along, in the darkness, through the Great Swamp and lost their way and died. Panthers then infested the "Shades of Death" and their terrible screams augmented the terror. Little children became separated from their mothers and were lost. Steuben Jenkins has estimated that two hundred souls perished in the awful flight over the mountains. The fugitives poured in on Colonel Stroud, commandant at Fort Penn (now Stroudsburg) and severely taxed the old soldier's resources to feed and cloth them. Mrs. Ebenezer Marcy gave birth to a child by the roadside on the mountain and with Spartan strength and courage continued on her way to New England. Mrs. John Murphy whose husband had been slain on the battlefield had a child born to her in Depue's barn at Shawnee on the Delaware. In their haste they had departed without any supplies of food and some died of starvation in the mountains.

News reached Bethlehem on the 5th of July and soon the starved and half-naked ones poured into the Moravian settlements where they were kindly fed and nurtured. Down the river the trail of fugitives led from the lower settlements to Fort Augusta. These drove off with them their horses and cattle and saved some of their possessions. The excitement and fear swept away everything on the North Branch. In that mysterious way in which a panic spreads, the news went up the West Branch and even there all the settlements were denuded and the inhabitants joined in the great runaway. They swamped the garrison at Fort Augusta, but did not tarry long and continued their flight sweeping away with them in the great fright, the residents of the town of Sunbury. This is known as the "Great Runaway" and men left their habitations lower down the river and followed the unending trail of fugitives. William Maclay who had left his home at Sunbury, writing from Harris' Ferry, (now Harrisburg), said that even there the panic was intense and that Northumberland County was all broken up.

Colonel Hunter commandant at Fort Augusta, alone remained firm and with a few soldiers attempted to stem the flight and reassure the fugitives.

Major Butler on July 6th, received a letter by messenger and assembling his officers and Indian chiefs about him read it to them and after exhorting the Indians not to kill any women and children, ordered his forces to evacuate the valley. This was immediately done, the forces marching northward by the road, which ran on the west bank of the river, through the Township of Exeter. However, a few straggling and uncommanded Indians remained.

CHAPTER IX.

1778—1782

INDIAN RAIDS AND THE SULLIVAN EXPEDITION

CAPTURE OF LUKE SWETLAND—ESCAPE OF ISAAC TRIPP—THE HARTLEY EXPEDITION—INDIAN MURDERS ON KINGSTON FLATS—THE INDIAN BATTLE IN LOWER KINGSTON, MARCH 21, 1779—THE SULLIVAN EXPEDITION—MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF MR. HARVEY—STORY OF THOMAS BENNET AND LEBBEUS HAMMOND.

During the melancholy years that followed there is little to record except a number of atrocious murders and the grim determination of the surviving settlers to retain the fertile lands. In the year 1779, there was projected the Sullivan expedition, and that invasion and destruction of the Indian country was successfully carried out. On August 4, 1778, Zebulon Butler and a force of a hundred men, consisting of Captain Spaulding's company and militia, reentered Wyoming Valley and took up their quarters at an abandoned house in Wilkes-Barre which they surrounded with a palisade. This little force was sometime later increased by ninety men under command of Captain Bush of Colonel Hartley's Regiment. On August 24th Luke Swetland* of Kingston Township and Joseph Blanchard, while on their way by canoe to a grist mill near Nanticoke Falls, were surprised by a small band of Seneca Indians and taken prisoners.

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*LUKE SWETLAND was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, July 26, 1729, and about 1762 settled in Kent Litchfield County, from whence he came to Wyoming Valley in 1772, and settled in Kingston Township. After 1796, he lived on the Great Road near the beginning of the little hill, below where the monument now stands, and obtained title to the lands he occupied November 18, 1796, when William Slocum, sheriff, sold to him as the property of Joseph Hazard, Meadow Lot No. 5 and Lot No. 29, Third Division. He was a member of Captain Robert Durkee's Independent Company, but was discharged January 8, 1778. He was in the battle of Wyoming and fled with the others but reentered the valley with Butler on August 4th. Mr. Swetland wrote and published a very interesting account of his captivity. The Indians took him to Catherine's Town, the home of Catherine Montour, and there he was compelled to run the gauntlet but Queen Catherine took compassion on him and sent him by horseback in the custody of a small band of Indians to Appletown, another Seneca village, where he was adopted by an old squaw as her grandson. Here he remained in captivity for a year, but the Indians treated him with remarkable kindness and allowed him many privileges. Upon the approach of Sullivan's Army, the savages fled to Fort Niagara and upon their flight Swetland managed to elude them. He then made his way toward Sullivan's advance, but the soldiers mistook him for a Tory and he would have been badly mistreated but for the interference of Colonel George P. Ransom, who recognized him and took him to General Sullivan, to whom he revealed much valuable information. He returned with the Army to Wilkes-Barre

A short time later, after the capture of Mr. Swetland, Isaac Tripp, one of the first forty settlers of Kingston Township, his grandson, Isaac and James Hocksey and Timothy Keyes, were taken prisoners at Capouse. Old Mr. Tripp they painted and dismissed. They then took the warriors path leading to Oquago and that night encamped beyond Legget's Gap. Near the present village of Clark's Summit, two warriors took Keyes and Hocksey into the woods a distance from the path. They were gone about half an hour, when they returned with bloody tomahawks and the scalps of the two unfortunate men. Young Tripp was taken to Fort Niagara where he met and talked with his cousin, Frances Slocum, when she was brought there as a captive. Isaac Tripp remained captive in Canada until the close of the war when he returned to Providence. Astounded by the terrible atrocities committed at Wyoming, and conscious of their guilty negligence in allowing such an exposed frontier to go unprotected, the authorities were moved and Colonel Thomas Hartley acting under orders of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania marched his regiment to Fort Augusta and prepared for an invasion of the Indian country. A detachment from the small force guarding Westmoreland, under the command of Captain Bush and including Captain Spaulding's Independent Company and a small force of militia under John Franklin, joined the expedition at the mouth of Muncy Creek on September 18th. This force consisting of about 200 men marched to Tioga Point by the "Sheshequin Path", which followed Lycoming Creek, Towanda Creek for a short distance and then Sugar Creek, to the Susquehanna. Colonel Hartley destroyed Queen Esther's Village and burnt her palace. The troops then marched down the Susquehanna arriving at Wilkes-

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and thence made his way to Litchfield County, Connecticut, where he joined his family. He subsequently lived on his lands at Mehoopany and Wyoming where he died January 30, 1823, in the ninety-fourth year of his age. He was a man of intelligence and was probably the first horticulturist in the valley, establishing a nursery for fruit trees on his Kingston farm and introducing here many improved New England fruits. He was married April 1, 1762, to Hannah Tiffany, born at Lebanon, April 8, 1738, died at Kingston, January 8, 1809, and they were the parents of the following sons: Belding, William, Joseph, Eli, Seth and John, all of whom except the first three died young.

Belding Swetland was born in Sharon, Connecticut, January 14, 1763. He accompanied his parents to Wyoming in 1772, and was in Forty Fort at the time of the battle. In 1787 he was married at Sharon to Sallie Gay, born in 1763 and returned to Wyoming in 1794. She died at Wyoming, December 18, 1815, and Belding Swetland died there July 22, 1816. They were the parents of the following children: William, hereinafter mentioned, Eli, born October 10, 1791, died September 27, 1850. Ebenezer, born May 15, 1793, died December 13, 1838; Eleazer, born December 31, 1796, died February 6, 1878; Henry; Uriah, born September 29, 1800, died April 24, 1888; Hiram born October 14, 1802, died November 25, 1836; Almira, born January 5, 1805, married William Merrifield; Margaret, born June 27, 1807, died July 18, 1896, married William Underwood; Harriet, born August 13, 1809, died August 11, 1874 married Edward D. Whiston; Sara, born March 12, 1812, married Charles M. Orr.

Barre October 1st. Several slight engagements were fought with the Indians, the last at the mouth of the Tuscarora Creek. Colonel Hartley specially complimented Captain Franklin and the Westmoreland Militia. On October 2nd, leaving some of his men at Wilkes-Barre, Colonel Hartley resumed his march to Fort Augusta. Three members of the Northumberland County Rangers stationed at Camp Westmoreland, who were out in search of potatoes on the Kingston flats, on October 3d, were attacked by the Indians and killed. After the departure of Colonel Hartley, Colonel Butler erected Fort Wyoming on the river bank and October 21st, he ordered a force of twenty-five men under command of Lieutenant John Jenkins to bury the remains of those slain in the battle and massacre of Wyoming. The bodies were gathered up on forks, loaded into carts and conveyed to a common grave near Eighth Street, in the present Borough of Wyoming and there interred. The intense summer heat had shrivelled up the bodies so that they were inoffensive, and none were recognized.

While in Plymouth on November 7th, John Perkins* of Kingston Township was killed by Indians.

During the winter bands of savages continued to make their appearance and about twenty Indians on February 18, 1779, secreted themselves in the brush at the pond hole (now in Kirby Park) and suddenly attacked four Kingston men who were returning from the upper part of the township, as they passed, by the "Twin Sisters" (the elms one of which is still standing south of Market Street in the park) and instantly killed Stephen

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*John Perkins was born in Plainfield, Windham County, Connecticut, and came here in the spring of 1769. He purchased the right of Joshua Hall and was the original proprietor or first occupier of House Lot No. 13, Meadow Lots Nos. 1 and 5, Lot No. 38, Third Division; Lot No. 26 Fourth Division. His estate was administered by Samuel Cummings to whom letters of administration were granted in 1782. He was the father of three sons, John born 1754; Aaron, born 1756; and David, born January 1, 1769. John Perkins, Jr., was a member of Captain Durkee's Independent Company and died at Morristown, N. J. July 6, 1777. Aaron Perkins resided in Kingston Township and died about 1838.

David Perkins married Sarah Ferrier, daughter of Thomas and Hester Lucky Ferrier, of Orange County, N. Y., who died January 1, 1845, aged 77 years, and five months, and he died January 8, 1854. They were the parents of the following children: 1st. Zibia, born in 1790, married Elisha Atherton of Kingston, born May 7, 1786, died April 12 1853. She died August 3, 1825; 2nd. John born July 11, 1792, died April 23, 1838. He was a major in the United States Army and married Eunice Miller born September 3, 1804, died January 2, 1880 and they were the parents of the following children (a) Sarah E., born October 19, 1823, married in 1841 Thomas F. Atherton, son of Elisha and Zibia Perkins Atherton, (born December 8, 1816, died April 27, 1870.) She died November 30, 1886. (b) David born February 28, 1829, died December 10, 1893; a daughter who married Reuben Henry of Jersey City, N. J, (c) Mary, who married Elisha Atherton Coray, born April 30, 1822, of Exeter Township. (d) a daughter, who married Robert Black of Scranton and Zibia born July 19, 1834, died August 30, 1788; 3rd. Thomas, died September, 1810 (4th. David; 5th; Mary, who married James Hancock; 6th Elizabeth who married John C. Grier of Peoria, Ill., and became the mother of David Perkins Grier, born 1837, died April 21, 1891.

Pettebone, Lieutenant Asahel Buck and Elihu Williams, Sr.,* Frederick Follett, a son of Benjamin Follett was wounded, but had the presence of mind to feign death and was scalped by one of the warriors. A spear had pierced his side and his stomach, yet under the skillful treatment of Dr. William Hooker Smith, he recovered and lived for many years. The alarm was sounded in the Kingston block house only a few hundred yards away, and a force of soldiers was sent across the river from the fort, but the wary savages succeeded in escaping.

It is not generally known that two Indian battles were fought in Kingston Township. The last occurred on March 21, 1779, and while there were no casualties among the settlers, they having learned from their sad experience the previous July to fight as warily as the savages, it was a spirited engagement and lasted for over two hours. The facts of the following account are taken mainly from the report of Colonel Zebulon Butler to General Hand, dated March 23, 1779.

During the early afternoon Captain James Bidlack and Josiah Rogers, two elderly men, while riding along the Plymouth road were suddenly attacked by Indians secreted in the woods which then lined Little Toby's Creek (or the Kingston pond hole as it is generally known). They immediately wheeled their horses and galloped toward the Kingston Blockhouse. Mr. Bidlack's saddle girth broke and he was thrown to the ground, taken by the Indians and subsequently carried away into captivity. Mr. Rogers succeeded in reaching the blockhouse but was pursued by several savages almost to the gates. The soldiers advanced and beat off the Indians, thus permitting Mr. Rogers' escape. But the warriors coming up in overpowering numbers, they retired to the fortification, although there was hot firing on both sides for a considerable time. Having confined the Kingston force in the blockhouse, the Indians began to drive off horses and cattle, and fire the buildings. The garrison at Fort Wyoming beat a general alarm, and Colonel Butler sent over reinforcements under two general officers. The combined forces now advanced from the blockhouse, and slowly forced back the enemy, who had occupied the ground from the Plymouth road (Northampton Street) northward to beyond Market Street, The battle ground was then open farming land and afforded no lurking places for the cunning savages. In open fighting the Indian was no match for the white man and although the firing was spirited and constant, on both sides, they constantly gave way and fell back to their cover, a piece of woods, which ran along the westerly and higher bank of the little creek (Little Toby's or Kingston pond hole), where the main body lay concealed. The Americans were skillfully commanded and the troops warily approached the ambuscade. Considerable execution was done among the savages and "Anthony Turkey" an Indian well known here, having lived in the valley prior to the outbreak of hostilities, was wounded in the thigh and being surrounded by the soldiers he fought like a demon, but was finally overpowered and killed. When the American skirmish line reached the little creek, they discovered more than two hundred warriors grouped in two bands. The Americans then slowly fell back, being followed at a considerable distance by this large band of Indians and kept up an intense firing, which Colonel Butler says "prevented their pursuing Indian like and got back to the block house well through a heavy fire". The Indians then again commenced running off cattle, but were pursued by small bands of Americans who beat them off, wherever possible. The engagement lasted for two hours and a half and notwithstanding the activity of the Americans, and the overpowering numbers of the enemy, they fought so skillfully, and were so adroitly commanded that none were injured although several had bullet holes through their clothes and Lieutenant Pettebone had a ramrod shot to pieces in his hand. During this foray the Indians swept clear across the lower Kingston and upper Plymouth meadows and drove off sixty horned cattle, twenty horses, burned five barns that were full of hay and grain and ten empty houses.

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*Elihu Williams while he lived across what is now known as Main Street, in the immediate vicinity of the large paint shop of the Lackawanna Railroad in Plymouth Township, may almost be regarded a Kingston man, and his descendants, the well known family of that name, were always considered Kingston people. He was born in Canterbury, Connecticut, and came here in 1773. With two of his sons, he fought in the Battle of Wyoming, and they were killed, but he escaped to Forty Fort and with his family made his way to Fort Penn. The mother and children went to Connecticut and the father returned to the valley where he remained until his death as narrated above. His widow, Mrs. Desire Williams returned to the old homestead in 1782, where she died and is probably buried in the old Gallup burial ground. Her children were Esther, Desire, Lucy, who married Josiah Ives and Darius. The latter, known as Rev. Darius Williams, was a celebrated character in the early history of Wyoming Valley. He was a convert of Anning Owen and joined the first Methodist Class on Ross Hill. He was a man of great native ability and although self taught, became a Methodist preacher of prominence. Mr. Williams was a remarkably eloquent man and his exemplary life and great power as a preacher was a tradition among the older people. He died at the old homestead about 1845. His daughter Cynthia, married June 18, 1829, Reuben Jones, Esq. who will be particularly mentioned hereafter.

On March 23rd, this same band attacked Fort Wyoming, but after a considerable skirmish that afternoon were driven off. The body of Anthony Turkey killed in the Kingston engagement was placed in a canoe, a bow and arrow were fixed in his hands and a written pass was pinned to his body requiring all persons to "let the bearer go to his master, King George, or the Devil". The canoe was then turned adrift and when it reached Catawissa, was observed. A man, put off from the shore, but when he discovered the Indian with the drawn bow and arrow aimed at him he retreated in a hurry; but seeing no movement of the Indian, his courage was renewed and he put off again; secured the canoe and brought it ashore, where after being inspected and laughed at by the people, Turkey was again turned adrift to cause further wonderment and concern. It having been determined to destroy the Indian settlements in Western New York, an expedition of the Continental Army was prepared and Major General John Sullivan of New Hampshire was placed in command. The Sullivan Army was composed of the brigades of Generals Poor, Maxwell, and Hand, Colonel Proctor's Regiment of Artillery and Major Parr's battalion of Morgan's Riflemen. This force numbering about 3,500 men, gathered at Easton, which they left June 18th, and that night encamped at Wind Gap. In order to facilitate the passage of the artillery, a road was cut across the Pocono Mountains which was long known as the Sullivan Road. The main force arrived at Wyoming on June 23rd, and for a considerable time, while supplies were being collected, encamped here. The brigade of General Poor was encamped at Forty Fort, while the expedition was being organized and equipped and on Monday, July 5th, an elaborate entertainment, probably the first Fourth of July celebration held in Wyoming Valley, was given by General Poor. A large booth or arbor some eighty feet long was constructed of boughs and in this a splendid dinner was served to a large number of invited guests. During the encampment at the fort, Kingston was the scene of much activity and excitement. Most of the supplies for the expedition were brought up the river in boats. The supplies at last having been gathered, the army began its march up the river on July 31st. To feed this force required a large supply, for the country they were to march through was mostly a dense forest. The sustenance of the army was carried by 1200 pack horses and some 200 boats, and about 900 beef cattle were driven behind the army. The encampment the first night was on the flats, near the mouth of the Lackawanna and from thence the expedition proceeded up the east bank of the river to Tioga Point, which they reached on August 11th. On August 22nd, General Sullivan was reinforced by General James Clinton, whose force floated down the Susquehanna in some two hundred bateaux. In order to make the Susquehanna navigable, Clinton dammed up Otsego Lake and the released waters raised the shallow river sufficiently to float his boats the hundred miles of their journey to Tioga Point. From Tioga, General Sullivan marched up the Chemung to Newtown, below Elmira where on August 29th, he fought and completely defeated the Indians and Tories. From thence they proceeded to the Seneca Country where all the Indian villages, orchards and fields of corn were destroyed; but the savage inhabitants had fled in advance of the invasion to Fort Niagara and few, if any of them, were killed. Having spread desolation, through the beautiful country of the western lakes and the Genesee, General Sullivan evacuated the country and returned to Tioga Point from whence the march was continued to Wyoming, arriving here October 7th. He reached Easton on October 15th, having accomplished the purpose for which the expedition was organized, the devastation of the fertile country of western New York, and the meeting out of a just retribution to the savage people, who had committed the atrocities at Wyoming and Cherry Valley.

It was the expectation, that Sullivan's demolition of the Indian settlements would result in deterring the marauding bands sent out from Fort Niagara, the sustenance and support which they drew from the various Indian villages having been destroyed. But, during the years 1780 and 1781, roving bands of desperate warriors continued their incursions, committing atrocious murders, carrying away numerous captives, from points as far south as Shawnee, on the Delaware, and almost to Fort Augusta. One of the thrilling episodes of the frontier during the closing years of the war occurred in the neighboring town of Plymouth. Old Benjamin Harvey resided in Plymouth in 1780 in a log house standing on a little elevated spot on the north side of the main road between the present Christian

Church edifice and Browns Creek. On a cool evening on the 6th of December, 1780, the elder Mr. Harvey, his son Elisha, Miss Lucy Bullford and his daughter Lois and George Palmer Ransom, were seated about the fire place, when there was a sudden knock at the door, which the inmates knew was not made with the knuckles of the hand but with the head of a tomahawk. Old Mr. Harvey broke the silence by saying they had better invite them in, as resistance might make the matter worse. A band of six Indians came in and immediately bound the whole party and set out toward Canada. At the top of the mountain, they painted the young women and released them with a taunting message to Colonel Butler at Fort Wyoming. They pushed on and the following night encamped on Mehoopany Creek. The next morning Mr. Harvey, being old and feeble was bound to a tree and it was determined to take his life. The old chief then measured the ground some three rods; called three young braves and placing a tomahawk in the hand of each and stepping aside, pointed his finger to the head of the old man. The first one, with a piercing whoop, hurled his tomahawk after giving two or three flourishes in the air. It fastened itself in the tree five or six inches above the old man's head. The second and third made the same effort but with like effect. The whole Indian party became furious but finally the old chief approached the victim, loosened his bands, pointed to the trail and told him to go. The old chief imputed Harvey's deliverance to the Great Spirit and hence his release. Mr. Harvey finally made his way to the settlements. Colonel Ransom was sent to a prison in Montreal and young Harvey to Green Bay, but both were finally released and returned to their friends.

Dr. Peck has most interestingly told the celebrated and tragic story of Thomas Bennet and Lebbeus Hammond in the following words. "On the 27th of March, 1780, Thomas Bennet, with his son, Andrew, a lad of thirteen or fourteen years of age, commenced plowing on the flats on land now owned by Elijah Shoemaker of Kingston. They took their guns with them, and tried to shoot some ducks in the river. Hiding their guns, they commenced their work. Their team consisted of a yoke of oxen and a horse, the boy riding the horse. They had been watched by four Indians who stole up to the place where the guns were concealed and broke them. They then sprang upon Mr. Bennet and his son, and hurried them away.

On the same morning, Lebbeus Hammond had left Wilkes-Barre in pursuit of a fine horse, which he found on a place he had occupied a few miles up the river, on the west side. He made a bridle of hickory withes and was proceeding homeward, when he saw moccasin tracks. He was much alarmed, and expected every minute to be fired upon. All at once two Indians leaped from the bushes, and one seized his horse, while the other pulled him off. After a brief consultation in Indian, which Hammond did not understand, they led him a short distance into the woods and pinioned his arms, and then tied him to a tree. In this situation they left him for about an hour, when they returned with four others, having Bennet and his son as prisoners. Their greetings were such as might have been expected. Hammond had made an almost miraculous escape from "Bloody Rock", and Bennet was a notorious patriot, and their prospects now were anything but agreeable.

An Indian mounted Hammond's horse, but when they came to the marsh, which lies between the river and the mountain, he ran the horse into the mire and left him there. The Indians hurried on with their prisoners over the mountain and lodged that night near the foot of "Cumming's Pond" in what is now Northmoreland. The Indians evidently did not know the prisoners, for they left them unbound; and Bennet was for attempting to escape, but Hammond thought it not possible to succeed, and the idea was given up. The next day, they proceeded on to Bowman's Creek and when they came into "the green woods" they found the snow "waistband deep." Of course it was laborious traveling, especially for a man of years like Mr. Bennet. But the party pushed on, and made what progress they could. Occasionally one of the Indians would yell horribly, as though he wished to attract the attention of another party. At length they met a party of about forty Indians, commanded by a white man, a Tory, of course. An old Indian belonging to the party sung out, "Ah! old Bennet; I'd rather see your scalp."

Some of the Indians fell back and held a counsel, while the Tory asked Bennet many questions with regard to the situation of the fort, the number of fighting men, the number of inhabitants in the settlement and the like. He was told that there were three hundred fighting men in the fort, that they were well armed and provisioned, and that they had cannon, and that the settlers had all taken refuge there. They then concluded to strike the river below the fort. They divided their company into three parties, and committed various outrages, some of which will be noticed in another connection. Before the two parties separated, an Indian went up to a burnt stump and blackened his face, and coming up to Mr. Bennet, he directed his attention to his face, with the significant sentence "Ho! Bennet." The movement was well understood. One of the party of Indians which they met joined their party, which made seven.

That night the prisoners were pappoosed, that is, fastened down with poles laid across them, with an Indian on each end of the poles. The prisoners had as yet little or nothing to eat, and were heavily burdened with luggage belonging to the Indians. Of course, they were worn down, and nearly ready to give up and die. The next day—the third day of their captivity—Mr. Bennet accidently pulled a button from his coat, and put it in his pocket. They were now searched, and the button being found, Bennet asked for it, saying he wished to put it on again. The Indian flung it away, saying "Fool, Bennet; only one day more. You die at Wyalusing." That day, the Indians hunted for deer, and starting one, left the prisoners a few rods behind, and gave them an opportunity to consult. Bennet said to Hammond, "We must rise upon them to-night." "It will be a great undertaking," said Hammond, "but it may be our last chance." "They will kill me," answered Bennet, "and I know not with what cruel torture. It may be we shall succeed, and if we do we will again return to our families; but if I am to die, I will sell my life as dearly as possible." "In the consultation the boy said little, but thought much. How he acted his part will appear as the story proceeds. The arrangement was made by the time the deer was taken, and the party proceeded to cross the river. They came up to the Meshoppen, which was much swollen by the melted snow, and before they could venture to wade the stream, they went up two or three miles.

Having crossed the creek, and descended to the place of encampment, near the Susquehanna, they built a fire under a shelving rock. While the Indians were seated around the fire, roasting and eating the meat of the deer, the leader of the party entered into conversation with Mr. Hammond. He spoke tolerable English, and seemed particularly free and communicative. He said he had expected to meet a large company of Indians at that place, but he supposed they had encamped farther up the river. He then asked him various questions about the war. Would there be peace? Did the white men wish to make peace with the red men? He had been told so. Did he know Lieutenant Boyd? Hammond said he was intimately acquainted with him. In September, Boyd had been sent out with a reconnoitring party by General Sullivan, in the Genesee, and had been surrounded by a superior force, taken, and most barbarously tortured. The Indian said he led the party that took Boyd, and he further said, "Boyd brave man—as good a soldier as ever fought against the red man." He said they tortured Boyd, cut off his fingers and toes, plucked out his eyes, etc., "still brave Boyd neither asked for mercy nor uttered a complaint." Ah! "brave Boyd" knew very well the character of the Indians.

He then brought a sword and said, "There Boyd's sword." Hammond took the sword, and discovered the initials of Boyd's name stamped on the blade near the hilt. To the whole tale, Hammond listened without expressing the slightest emotion, well knowing the consequences of the least manifestation of the indignation which he felt burning in his bosom.

When the Indians were ready to lie down, they pappoosed the prisoners as on the preceding night; then they drew their blankets over their heads and fell into a sound sleep. One only seemed to be on the watch. About midnight Bennet manifested great uneasiness and asked to get up. He received for answer, "Most day—lie down, dog." He insisted that he was sick and must get up. About one o'clock the Indians all got up and relieved the prisoners, allowing them to get up and walk about. Bennet brought wood and flung it on the fire. In about two hours all the Indians were snoring again except the old watchman, and he commenced roasting the deer's head, first sticking it in the fire, and then scraping off the meat with his knife and eating it. Finally the old fellow began to nod over his early breakfast. Hammond placed himself by an Indian axe, and Andrew Bennet, the boy, stood by the guns, which were stacked. Both watched the movements of Mr. Bennet, who was poking up the brands. He had on a long great-coat, and, as he came round near the Indian, he cautiously took hold of a spontoon, or war spear, which lay by his side, and stepped back with the instrument covered by his coat, holding it in a perpendicular position behind him. When he had reached the right point behind the Indian he plunged it through him. He gave a tremendous jump and a hideous yell, and fell upon the fire

The spontoon was so firmly fixed in the body of the Indian that Bennet was obliged to abandon it, and to use a gun and a tomahawk during the rest of the fight. Hammond used the axe, dashing it into the head which was first lifted. The old Indian who had given the account of Boyd's massacre was the first to take the alarm. He yelled out "Chee-woo! Chee-woo!" when Hammond buried the head of the axe in his brains, and he fell headlong into the fire. The next blow took an Indian on the side of the neck, just below the ear, and he fell upon the fire. The boy snapped three guns, not one of which happened to be loaded, but his operations made the Indians dodge and jump straight under Hammond's axe, or the breech of a gun which old Mr. Bennet had clubbed, and with which he did terrible execution. A stout Indian undertook to secure a weapon by a rush upon the boy. He sprang upon him with the fury of a demon, his eyes seeming to blaze, when the brave little fellow swung the breech of a gun and buried the cock in the top of his head. Just at that moment the only two Indians remaining alive took to their heels, when Mr. Bennet, who could throw a tomahawk with the precision and force of any redskin on the frontier, picked up a tomahawk and let it slip, and it stuck in the back of one of them. The Indian turned round, being at about the distance of forty feet, and holloed out "whoo," and his blanket fell from his shoulders and the hatchet was left with it on the ground, he running off naked.

It was an awful struggle, but it was not long. A minute and a half or two minutes, and the work was done. Five of the savages were piled up on and around the fire, and two had fled badly wounded. There was a great contrast between the present appearance of the Indian camp under the rock, and that same camp the evening before, when the blood thirsty savage gloried in the barbarous deed of cutting off Boyd's fingers and toes, and pulling out his eyes; and looked forward, to perhaps, the next night, when he would glut his savage vengeance in a similar manner upon the prisoners, who were obliged to listen to the recital without the slightest expression of sympathy for their brave companion and friend. The prisoners were now free, and no time was lost. They supplied themselves with good moccasins from the feet of the dead and dying Indians, and took guns and ammunition for defense, and blankets for their protection from the cold, and fifteen minutes from the moment the last blow was struck they were upon the march for their home and friends.

THE FLIGHT OF HAMMOND AND THE BENNETS.

The wounded Indians, took a position on the side of the mountain where they had a fair view of the camp, and watched the movements of the victors. When they had gone, the poor wretches returned to see if anything remained by which they might be saved from freezing or starvation. Here the miserable savages saw their companions, with whom they had shared in common dangers and hardships, all gory and cold in death. They laid them down to sleep, the stern, cruel masters of a band of helpless captives; they awoke to see their own weapons in the hands of those captives, and to feel the cold steel which they had often stained with the blood of the white man. Their comrades were dead, and they were naked and helpless. This was a terrible lesson to the infuriated savages, and one they did not forget.

The victors made their calculations to take as straight a course as possible through the woods to the "Capouse Meadows," near where the flourishing town of Scranton is now located, avoiding all Indian trails. They pushed on up the Meshoppen about three miles. The stream was high and the current rapid; but there was no alternative; they must wade it, if possible, at that point. The two men took the boy between them, lest the angry current should sweep him away, and with tremendous efforts, succeeded in reaching the other shore. The morning was extremely cold, and they had proceeded but a short distance before their clothes were frozen stiff. They had brought away with them no provisions of any kind and such was the excitement under which they labored that they scarcely felt the need of any. They toiled on, alternately inspired by hope and depressed with fear. The danger was that a fresh party of Indians might get upon their track and overtake them.

They had reason to think that there was a large party above, and that they might meet the wounded Indians, and learn the story of the slaughter of their fellows, and give the escaped prisoners chase, or they might meet a party crossing over from the Delaware, to the Susquehanna, and in either event there would be scarcely a ray of hope of their escaping the most barbarous tortures. The images of their loved ones at home stood before them every moment, and stimulated them to hold on their way. Every step brought them nearer the goal, and enlarged the space between them and the scene of the fearful tragedy at Meshoppen. The excitement of the journey was little inferior to that of the terrible struggle with the savages through which they had just passed. Such fearful tension of the nerves can not long be endured, but for a time will almost perform miracles. They were hungry, but thought not of food; weary, but there was no place of rest, short of friends and home. From early dawn till late at night they were on full stretch, heeding nothing which they passed, and taking no note of time simply marking the ranges of the hills which bordered the large streams, which empty into the Susquehanna from the east. When they saw the last range peering up in the distance, they, like Paul when he saw "the Three Taverns," "Thanked God and took courage."

Safe at Home Again.

Mr. Bennet was an old hunter and understood the ground. They kept their course, crossing the high ridges and deep valleys which lay across their path, generally being able to walk on the frozen crust, until, on the second day, they reached the south side of the mountain range northwest of the Lackawanna valley. Here they found bare ground, and now they paused occasionally for a few minutes and picked wintergreen to eat. They pursued their journey down the side of the mountain to the mouth of the Lackawanna, and so found their way to the fort at Wilkes-Barre after an absence of six days. The appearance of the Bennets and Hammond at the fort was an occasion of great joy, as they had been given up for lost. When the excitement passed off, there was little of life left in the returned captives. Nursing and rest finally brought up their emaciated forms and their exhausted spirits to their former condition.

Lieutenant Boyd's sword was brought away by Hammond, and was afterward presented to his brother, Colonel John Boyd.

As to the two Indians who escaped, one died in the woods from his wounds and subsequent exposure, and the one tomahawked by Mr. Bennet was taken up in a state of insensibility by a party of Indians coming over from the Delaware. After they had restored him to consciousness, he gave an account of the slaughter of the Indians by Hammond and the Bennets, which was communicated to Mr. Bennet in a letter from Esquire Consollus, who was a prisoner in the party, and listened to the Indian's story."

CHAPTER X

1782—1788

THE FOURTEENTH COMMONWEALTH

THE SEVENTEEN TOWNSHIPS—THE COURT AND DECREE OF TRENTON—ELECTION OF PENNSYLVANIA MAGISTRATES—COLONEL JOHN FRANKLIN, YANKEE LEADER—EVICTION OF THE YANKEES BY ALEXANDER PATTERSON—YANKEES GATHER AT FORT LILLOPEE—SKIRMISH ON ROSS HILL—SIEGE OF WILKES-BARRE—BATTLE OF LOCUST HILL—INVASION OF COLONEL ARMSTRONG—BATTLE AT BROCKWAY'S FARM—EXPULSION OF PENNSYLVANIANS—ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW COMMONWEALTH—ETHAN ALLEN—COLONEL TIMOTHY PICKERING—THE CONFIRMING ACT—MEETING AT FORTY FORT—ORGANIZATION OF LUZERNE COUNTY—ARREST OF COLONEL FRANKLIN—GIDEON DUDLEY AND THE WILD YANKEE BOYS—ABDUCTION OF COLONEL PICKERING—COLLAPSE OF THE RESISTANCE.

One of the dramatic stories, of American history, is that of the "Fourteenth Commonwealth." Engaged, for and against it, were the most eminent men ever connected with public affairs in this section of the country. Old Forty Fort was the center and scene of the most stirring events of the desperate struggle and Kingston Township was the nucleus of the movement. The undisputed leader of this romantic scheme was a bold and daring man of unbending will, who had he not been kidnapped and confined in chains in a loathsome dungeon for many months, might to-day be honored as the founder of a great state. His opponent, a man of recognized ability, subsequently occupied with honor, the most important positions in the government of the United States.

These two foes, John Franklin, a poor farmer, from Huntington Township; and Timothy Pickering, graduate of Harvard College and Secretary of State under George Washington, met in a stern arena of conflict, where only leadership, of great ability and indomitable will, prevailed.

The central and engaging figure in this historical drama, which at the time convulsed the continent, almost threatened the destruction of the infant republic, and resulted in the first great state trial in American history, was Colonel Franklin.

At the close of the Revolution, seventeen townships had been organized and partly settled, along the Susquehanna from the falls at Nescopeck to the confluence of the stream at Tioga Point. They comprised the Connecticut county and town of Westmoreland and were known by the names of: Salem, Huntington, Newport, Bedford, Plymouth, Hanover, Kingston, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston, Providence, Exeter, Northmoreland, Putnam, Braintrim, Springfield, Claverack and Ulster. They embraced the most fertile land in northern Pennsylvania and the richest territory in the world. The hungry land speculators of Pennsylvania had watched with deep concern for nearly thirty years, the movements of the Susquehanna Company, and the ingress of New England settlers had aroused their frantic rage. But time and again they had been beaten and repelled by the actual occupiers of the land. The honest German farmers below the mountains, and the sturdy Scotch Irish settlers on the western frontier, lent no sympathy and little support to the rotten proprietary government, and greedy speculators, in their selfish struggle against the husbandmen from New England. To those who toil, belong the fruits of their toil, was a nore common adage then, than now. New England was a land of small farms, and of a martial people. They had borne the brunt of the fighting for England in the struggle against the French, and the armies of the Revolution were largely recruited in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The honored leaders of these people were their preachers, the teachers of their schools, and the commanders of their militia.

Trade and commerce were confined to the coast and sea, and even there, there were more hardy fishermen, and sturdy sailors, than selfish traders. They were industrious and thrifty, and on their rocky farms reared great frame farm houses where they dwelt in comfort and independence. They sought these western lands, that their sons might do likewise.

But it was otherwise in Philadelphia, the greatest city on the continent. There dwelt the merchants, and traders, the profit seekers and speculators; and those who exploited the toil of others. From thence came the money, the energy and the brains that carried on the Pennamite Wars. But the honest and toiling farmers of Chester, and Bucks, of Berks and Lancaster, gave their nefarious schemes no support; and these speculators, too cowardly to fight themselves, were no match in a free and open struggle with the Wyoming men who were both willing to work and fight. Trading and speculating, avarice and business exploitation, must to exist, be protected by strong and ordered governments, by plenty of politicians, judges and lawyers. These arts appealing to the meaner instincts of men can not prevail in open battle, and in a military and agricultural society, they sink to insignificance. And thus, it was, that in a noble and honored age, traders and usurers were despised and confined within the ghettos of the Middle Ages. During the war, Congress had exhorted peace in the disputed region, and while there were sullen rumblings of discontent among the grantees of the old proprietors, and some quiet exultation over the destruction of Wyoming in 1778, the New England settlers were left alone. Moreover, the bloodless men of business were more profitably engaged as army contractors and sutlers during the Revolution.

But, the return of peace afforded an opportunity for intrigue and manipulation, and the hungry speculators, renewed their activities and importuned the Pennsylvania authorities to demand a settlement, by Congress. Connecticut asked for delay, because many of her important papers were inaccessible, being in the possession of the English government; but Congress proceeded to action and August 28, 1782, appointed a commission of seven members to decide the disputed question of jurisdiction, and fixed Tuesday, November 12, 1782, as the time, and Trenton as the place where the court should meet. The commissioners were: William Whipple of New Hampshire, Welcome Arnold of Rhode Island, David Brearly and William Churchill Houston of New Jersey, Cyrus Griffin, Joseph Jones and Thomas Nelson of Virginia. The two latter did not sit, but as Congress had provided that any five should make a quorum, the others met November 19, 1782, and constituted the court. James Wilson, Joseph Reed, Jonathan S. Sergeant, and William Bradford, the most emminent lawyers of Philadelphia, entered their appearances for Pennsylvania; and Colonel Eliphalet Dyer, William Samuel Johnson and Jesse Root for Connecticut.

It was the first great state trial under the Articles of Confederation, and because of its magnitude one of the most important determinations in the judicial history of the United States. There is evidence that Connecticut was somewhat remiss in her duty to the settlers, and a well grounded suspicion prevailed that a private arrangement was entered into, whereby that state was to profit by the future sale of western lands. It was ever thus, private and selfish arrangements, of cunning schemers, usually prevail over the just rights of honest men.

However, all the salient features of the great controversy were thoroughly discussed and competently proven. At the opening session the attorneys for Connecticut cited the extensive settlements under the Susquehanna Purchase and moved that, "The tenants in possession holding as aforesaid, be duly cited to appear and defend." The Court denied the motion, because it was acting and derived its jurisdiction under the Second clause of Article Nine, and not the Third clause. It was a proper ruling and technically correct, but thus at the outset, the settlers, the ones who alone, in point of morals, had any right, were denied the protection of the court.

The evidence before the court disclosed the respective claims under the paper title, to be: that of Pennsylvania under the charter and grant to William Penn dated March 24, 1681; that of Connecticut under the Plymouth Council by Charter, November 3, 1620; and grant by them to Sir Henry Roswell, March 19, 1628, with confirmation by the king, dated March 4, 1629; deed of the Earl of Warwick, March 19, 1631, to Lord Say and Sele; and the letters patent to John Winthrop, incorporating the Colony of Connecticut April 20, 1662. This latter was a grant of powers of government and granted and confirmed to the patentees, the lands, they already held under the grant of the Council of Plymouth, which had in 1635 resigned its patent to the crown, so that the king might grant the powers of government to those holding the right of soil.

The claim of Connecticut was therefore based upon three valid royal grants, respectively, 61 years, 52 years and 19 years prior to the grant under which Pennsylvania claimed. Therefore Connecticut under the paper title, alone, should have won, unless actual occupancy of the disputed land vested a superior right of possession in Pennsylvania.

England never recognized any right of title in the Indians, and their occupancy of granted land might be terminated by an ejectment by force of arms, or by purchase and treaty, the usual method employed. Consequently, the Indian deeds offered in evidence were not links in the paper chain of title, but merely steps in the actual occupancy of the land by the respective contestants.

Pennsylvania's claim of occupancy was based:

1. Upon the deed of preemption dated October 25, 1736, wherein the Indians declared, that they would not sell any lands other than to the Proprietors, within the limits of the government of Pennsylvania as it is bounded northward by the government of New York. (If however, there was a wrong description and the charter limits of Pennsylvania did not actually extend as far north as New York, the Indians had not obligated themselves as to the intervening lands, and the chiefs of the Six Nations insisted in 1742, that they had conveyed no rights north of the Kittatiny Hills (south of Connecticut line), which they understood to be the limits of the government of Pennsylvania. This deed of preemption contained an endorsement made by eight chiefs, July 9, 1754, "That neither we nor any by our authority shall sell or grant or convey to any other than the said proprietors any lands within the limits of said province."

2. Upon the deed of November 5, 1768, of all that part of the Province of Pennsylvania, not heretofore purchased of the Indians. Some attempt was made by Pennsylvania to show an occupancy of land on the Delaware River within the claim of Connecticut, long prior to the settlement under the Susquehanna Purchase.

Connecticut's claim of actual occupancy began with the purchase of the Indian right by the deed of 1754, and the subsequent settlement of the territory by numerous settlers who occupied an extensive territory and maintained civil jurisdiction in seventeen townships erected into a county of the Colony of Connecticut.

Under the undisputed facts, Connecticut should have won, but by the famous "Decree of Trenton" rendered December 30, 1782, judgment was pronounced against her in the following words: "We are unanimously of opinion, that the jurisdiction and preemption of all the territory lying within the charter boundary of Pennsylvania, and now claimed by the State of Connecticut, do of right belong to the State of Pennsylvania." This decision did not, however, settle the private right of soil, and if the Decree of Trenton was made pursuant to a private arrangement between Connecticut and Pennsylvania, as has generally been believed, the Commissioners attempted to square their consciences, and in some measure protect the rights of the poor settlers as the following subjoined letter indicates:

"Trenton 31st Dec 1782

Sir:

We take the liberty to address your Excellency as private citizens lately honored with a commission to hear and determine the controversy between the states of Pennsylvania and Connecticut relative to a dispute of territory. In the course of the execution of this commission we have found that many persons are or lately have been settled on the land in question. Their individual claims could in no instance come before us, not being in the line of our appointment. We beg leave to declare to your Excellency, that we think the situation of these people well deserves the notice of government. The dispute has long subsided. It may have produced heats and animosities among those living in or near the country in contest and some imprudences may take place and draw after them the most unfavorable consequences. With all deference, therefore, we would suggest to your Excellency and Council whether it would not be best to adopt some reasonable measures to prevent any, the least disorder or misunderstanding among them and continue things in the present peacable posture until proper steps can be taken to decide the controversy respecting the private right of soil in the mode prescribed by the Confederation. We doubt not, an early proclamation from the Executive of Pennsylvania would have all necessary good effect; and we feel ourselves happy in the fullest confidence that every means will be adopted or acquiesced in by the state to render the settlement of this dispute complete and satisfactory as far as may be to all concerned. We have the honor to be with great respect

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servants

Wm. Whipple
Welcome Arnold
W. C. Houston
David Brearly
Cyrus Griffin"

His Excellency
President Dickinson

The only justification for the Decree of Trenton and it is hardly either legal or moral, was the absurdity of the situation, that a state should claim as an integral part of her domain and maintain jurisdiction of a territory, two hundred miles away. But this absurdity gave, Pennsylvania, no legal right to claim land clearly within the charter limits of Connecticut. It was a situation, that should have been met in the beginning by the creation of a separate colony. This was what was intended by the early adventurers on the Susquehanna, but, as heretofore pointed out, the lawyers in the Susquehanna Company muddled the situation in their agreement, which did neither create a government nor an efficient instrument of administration.

A messenger from Trenton arrived at Wyoming, January 4, 1783 and announced to the hurriedly gathered settlers, that they were no longer citizens of Connecticut but inhabitants of Pennsylvania. They were evidently nonplussed by the situation, but the impression prevailed that they should offer submission to the government of Pennsylvania upon receiving guarantees of their right to the soil. President Dickinson in compliance with the request of the Commissioners almost immediately issued his proclamation, prohibiting all persons from molesting the Wyoming settlers. Thus at the outset the attitude on both sides was conciliatory.

A meeting of the Wyoming settlers was held January 6th and Captain John Paul Schott* was appointed their agent and sent to Philadelphia to consult with the Connecticut representatives there, and he was instructed to present his petition in their behalf to the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, in such manner as he deemed proper. This introduces an interesting character and an important personage at Wyoming in the troublous times, following the Decree of Trenton.

On January 18, 1783 Captain Schott presented his petition to the General Assembly, which set forth at great length the claims of the settlers under the Connecticut title, and concluded with the following affecting appeal: "but in mercy goodness, wisdom, justice and every great and generous principle do leave us our possessions, the dearest pledge of our brothers, children, and fathers, which their hands have cultivated and their blood spilt in the cause of their country, has enriched." He prayed that courts be established under the laws of Pennsylvania and that the proceedings of the Connecticut courts be ratified and confirmed.

Acting upon the petition, the Assembly on February 20th passed a resolution that the citizens of Wyoming were entitled to the benefits of civil government, and that Joseph Montgomery, William Montgomery and Moses McLane be appointed commissioners to inquire into the claims of the Connecticut settlers. An act was passed prohibiting any suits of ejectment and trespass being commenced against the settlers until the commissioners should report.

Proceedings for a settlement of the dispute were thus auspiciously commenced. The commissioners were men of character and a just determination was anticipated; but the Pennsylvania land claimants became active and their subtle and malign influence prevailed. The commissioners arrived here April 15th, and at their request the names and settlements of the Connecticut people were furnished to them in writing, and with great particularity. Then the Commissioners proposed, what they called a compromise offered by the Pennsylvania claimants, which they insisted should be agreed to. It was so outrageous and unjust, that the Connecticut people promptly rejected it. The so called compromise was drawn with great cunning and was no compromise but an out and out surrender by the settlers. It provided that they should give a pledge for good behavior and relinquish their Connecticut claims in writing fairly, plainly, and unequivocally and that no evasion or denial could thereafter be had. The Pennsylvania claimants would then give to the settlers, leases for one half of the settlers land to expire April 1, 1784; the leases given to the widows of those slain in 1778 to expire April 1, 1785. At the expiration of the terms, they should sell or remove their buildings and absolutely quit the land.

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*JOHN PAUL SCHOTT was born in Prussia October 15, 1744 of a distinguished family. He served in the army of Frederick the Great, and at the close of the Seven Years War was appointed adjutant to the Duke of Brunswick. Just prior to the Revolution he came to New York with letters of introduction to Governor Tryon, but soon removed to Philadelphia and during the year 1776 he was engaged in blockade running for the Colonies. In September he was appointed a captain in the Continental Army and temporarily commanded the Third Battery of the Continental Regiment of Artillery. Later he raised a company among the German settlements of Pennsylvania, which was attached to De Ottendorf's Corps. Captain Schott was wounded at the Battle of Short Hills, N. J., June 26, 1777 and taken prisoner being confined in New York for six months when he was exchanged. He was then designated to command one of the two companies into which the corps had been divided and which was thenceforth known as Schott's Corps. He served in the Sullivan Expedition and upon the return of the Army was stationed at Wyoming, where in 1780 he married a sister of Mrs. Nathan Denison. Captain Schott continued to reside here until 1804 when he removed to Philadelphia. He conducted a store and tavern in Wilkes-Barre, during his residence here.

The commissioners, then secretly proceeded to divide Wyoming into two townships, Stoke and Shawnee, and into two election districts. On the morning of April 23rd, John Van Campen, Esq. of Northampton County acting for the commissioners posted a notice at their lodging place, the house of John Hollenback, calling a meeting for that afternoon, for both districts, for the election of four persons for each district for justices of the peace. All this was unknown to the people and the pretended election was conducted entirely by outsiders, but the machinery was thus prepared for the subsequent eviction of the poor Wyoming people. Two companies of Pennsylvania Rangers under Captains Robinson and Shrawder garrisoned Wyoming during the summer, although all danger of an Indian massacre was over.

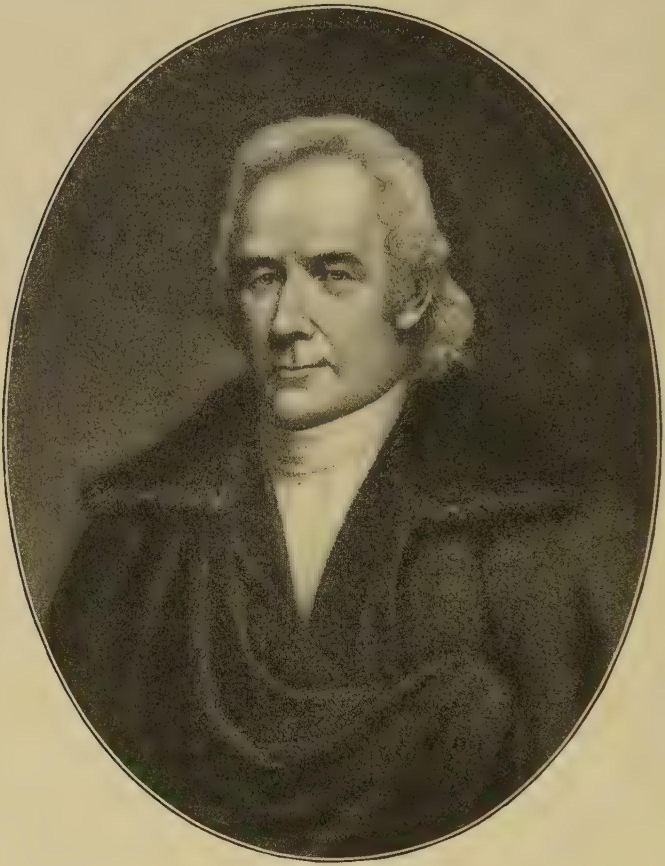
The Assembly met in August 1783 and the report of the commissioners was confirmed. The act staying suits of ejectment and trespass against the Connecticut people was repealed, and an act was passed giving them waste or unappropriated land in Northampton and Northumberland Counties, providing they would voluntarily relinquish their Wyoming lands upon demand made, or confess judgment of ejectment upon suit being brought. The land jobbers were in the saddle and the subservient legislature complacently acquiesced. Robert Martin and David Meade of Northumberland County and Alexander Patterson, John Seely, and Henry Shoemaker of Northampton County were commissioned justices of the peace. September 23rd, the Assembly ordered the raising of two companies of militia under the command of Major James Moore and Captains Christie and Shrawder to be stationed at Wyoming. About this time, Alexander Patterson general agent of the Pennsylvania land jobbers came here to direct the work of eviction. There was an influx of ruffians from New Jersey and other parts of Pennsylvania. All hope of a just determination vanished. The land jobbers had all the prepared machinery at their disposal; two secretly created townships, compliant justices, two companies of militia, the backing of a great state and a consummate villian Alexander Patterson to direct the enterprise

On September 24th, Colonel Zebulon Butler was seized, thrown into the guard house and then taken to Sunbury without warrant or commitment. The Northumberland authorities, more just than those at Wyoming, released him under bail, but he was subsequently arrested and held under bail of £5000. During the Revolution, David Meade one of the early Connecticut settlers and the surveyor of the five settling townships, more sagacious than valorous, removed to Northumberland, that being a place of greater security, and he now reappeared at Wyoming as a full fledged Pennsylvania claimant and justice to boot; thus evidencing, that the briber's gold was as seductive then as now. Meade, promptly proceeded to seize, as his own, ten of the best meadow lots of thirty acres each in the Township of Wilkes-Barre, although most of these belonged to widows and orphans of those slain in 1778.

On October 30th Patterson with a company of militia went to Plymouth, where he seized eleven men, cruelly bound them and drove them to Wilkes-Barre, where they were thrown into the guard house and compelled by the soldiers to lie down in the cold filth and mire. They were there confined for several days and then dismissed without trial. Major Prince Alden more than sixty years of age and a feeble man was thus imprisoned and had his staff seized by Captain Christie and burnt.

In some cases men were thrown into the guard house and the soldiers assaulted or attempted to assault their wives. Some twenty soldiers were billeted with Colonel Butler, although his wife at the time was very ill. In November, David Meade compelled Butler to turn, over to him, his whole house except two small rooms. The widow of Captain Samuel Ransom and her three daughters, although all were ill were driven from their home. Charges were trumped up, on alleged claims of years before the Decree of Trenton, judgments obtained before Patterson's justices and the land sold for one tenth its value. The purpose of these outrages was to discourage the settlers, and thus compel them to leave their homes and property.

The Connecticut people seemed to be without definite and determined leadership and their agents were easily rebuffed by the Pennsylvania authorities. But their desperation brought forth their great and thenceforth acknowledged leader. On December 9, 1783, John Franklin presented a petition to the General Assembly of Pennsylvania. Franklin was born at Canaan, Connecticut September 26, 1749, the son of John (born 1716 died 1800) and Keziah Pierce Franklin. He married Lydia Doolittle, February 2, 1774 and soon thereafter settled in Plymouth Township. Early in 1775, Huntington Township was laid out by the Susquehanna Company and lands therein were allotted to his father who was one of its shareholders. Soon after, John Franklin unaided and alone penetrated the wilderness and became the first settler of Huntington Township. In the dense solitude of the forest, with his faithful dog as his only companion he began his clearing on the banks of Huntington Creek and when he had reared his cabin of logs, he brought his young wife to this secluded home where they dwelt until the Indian incursion in 1778 drove them out. In May 1776, he was commissioned captain of the Tenth Company of the 24th Regiment Connecticut militia, the Huntington and Salem Company. On July 3, 1778 upon receipt from Colonel Denison of news of the impending conflict, he gathered together the men of Salem and Huntington and with them reached Forty Fort at twilight of the fearful day to become the mainstay of Colonel Denison during the night and day that followed. Franklin removed his family to Windsor in Berks County and then hastened back to Wyoming by the way of Fort Penn. Upon his return he carefully went over the battlefield of Wyoming and his description of the battle lines and the position of the corpses of the slain is the most accurate account we have. Captain Franklin accompanied the Hartley Expedition in command of a company of militia, and was specially complimented for his bravery and skill. That fall, he joined his family at Windsor, where shortly afterwards, together with his wife and children, he was striken with small pox from which his wife died. When the others had recovered, realizing that he could not properly care for his small children on the frontier, he yoked



Colonel John Franklin

his oxen to a cart, to the tail board of which he tied a cow, and with his children, one only a few months old he started for Connecticut, to place them in his father's family. He milked the cow and fed the babe, and with Spartan courage and the tenderness of a mother made his way through nearly three hundred miles of wilderness to his old home at Canaan. He participated in the Sullivan expedition, was Justice of the Quorum of Westmoreland County, and its representative in the Connecticut Assembly in 1781. Franklin was a very remarkable man both intellectually and physically. Colonel Wright says he was six feet four inches tall, square shouldered, a massive man of gigantic strength. He possessed a marvelous memory and had the rare intellectual gift of keen analysis. Although, never an emotional or sentimental orator, he was an impressive speaker and usually bore down all opposition by his thorough knowledge of his subject and the array of facts and figures he massed in argument. His courage was unquestioned and during the long and furious struggle, that followed, even his enemies admitted he was incorruptible. The title of colonel, he acquired at an election of the militia held at a muster at Shawnee during the Pennamite War. Franklin was entirely self taught and while his language is sometimes more rugged, than elegant, he was a ready writer. The mass of material he collected on every phase of Wyoming history, and his journals, letters, sketches and memorials have been the store house from which Miner, and every other historian of Wyoming has gathered the main materials of his work. Colonel Wright has said, and his judgment is undoubtedly correct, "that of the leaders of the Connecticut settlers he, Franklin was the man of probably the largest intellect and most persevering energy. It was a most extraordinary man who could thwart Timothy Pickering, and who could move and use to his purposes such men as Oliver and Alexander Wolcott, Joel Barlow and Ethan Allen. This Franklin did in the great scheme which he devised and nearly carried through, the creation of another state, which added to the original thirteen, (Vermont not having been admitted until 1791), would have been "The Fourteenth Commonwealth." As he was not only the general director and spirit of this new commonwealth, but its historian, as well, his subsequent career becomes the essential part of the following pages in which the romance is told.

John Franklin's petition brought results and the General Assembly appointed the members from Northampton County, a committee to inquire into the charges. On December 29th, the committee of the Assembly composed of Colonel Jacob Stroud, Jonas Hartzel and Robert Brown and attended by Robert Martin, Esq. from Northumberland County to administer oaths met at the tavern of John Paul Schott and began their inquiries. More than fifty depositions were taken down in writing, Patterson and his justices being allowed to cross examine the witnesses. Franklin says: "On January 8, 1784 the committee closed its inquiries after ten days indefatigable industry and strict justice and impartiality." The committee reported to the General Assembly, that the charges were fully and amply sustained, but the land jobbers had it recommitted and referred to a committee of five members.

Every form of persecution that the devilish cunning of man could devise was now resorted to by the land jobbers to disturb, dismay and discourage the Yankee settlers. Colonel Franklin in attendance at the legislature was arrested upon a charge preferred by Alexander Patterson and taken before George Bayard, Justice of the Supreme Court, with the expectation that he would be remanded to Sunbury for trial, and thus the friends of the Pennsylvania claimants, in the legislature, relieved of his obnoxious presence. However, he was admitted to bail, to appear at Sunbury in May, and thereafter, continued, undisturbed, his unceasing efforts. The Yankee people were not without their supporters in the Pennsylvania government, President Dickinson was a just and honorable man, and Frederick A. Muhlenberg was their friend. The powerful mind of Franklin was breaking down the opposition of his foes, and despite all the efforts of the land jobbers, the Assembly passed a resolution directing the Executive Council to discharge the garrison at Wyoming on the 10th of June. Unable to entirely suppress the effect of the report of Colonel Stroud's committee, the Pennsylvania claimants succeeded in deflecting the blow to some extent by the passage of a resolution, that the settlers had no right to apply to the legislature for relief but should resort to the common law for a redress of grievances.

Congress had been moved to their relief, and on January 24th passed a resolution, appointing the fourth Monday of June, for constituting a court to try the private right of soil.

During April and May Patterson's forces at Wyoming were augmented by a force of ruffians from New Jersey, under a certain William McDaniel, who according to Franklin, was a well known villain and Tory, once condemned to execution, who saved his neck by turning informer.

The approach of the time fixed for the trial of the right of soil by a court of the Confederation, and the impending discharge of the garrison at Wyoming stirred the Pennamites to drastic action. Led by Patterson and McDaniel and supported by the militia and hired ruffians, the work of outrage was begun on the 12th of April. The main source of sustenance of the settlers in the spring were the shad which came up the Susquehanna in great numbers. The fishermen were driven from the river, their seines destroyed and those who persisted in fishing were thrown into the filthy guard house. The highways were destroyed, fences thrown down, and land monuments obliterated. Supplies of water were polluted and wells filled up. Some of the most helpless, including widows and orphans of the slain were driven from their habitations to the woods, where their only shelter was a friendly bower of boughs.

Colonel Butler, with eleven others, was confined in his home under guard. Some twenty of the more resolute ones armed themselves well and made their escape to the mountains, to become the nucleus of the fighting force, which was to redeem the land. But in spite of the many persecutions, the settlers stuck with a tenacity which tired the patience of their oppressors, and Patterson and McDaniel entered upon an action which constituted one of the most flagrant and outrageous evictions in the history of the United States. It commenced on the 13th of May, when one hundred and fifty families were thrown out of their habitations. Helpless women and children were driven, at the point of the bayonet, from their homes to the fort where they were confined without food until the following day.

Feeble old men, women and helpless children were herded together like beasts in a pen and subjected to every insult and outrage, to which depraved and ruffianly men resort.

Then the black flag was hoisted, and Patterson ordered that the land should be depopulated, and the New England people driven back to Connecticut. None were permitted to go down the river or over the mountains to the friendly German settlements, but all were compelled to evacuate the land, which their toil had cleared, and tilled and which had been sanctified with the blood of their slain. The only way allowed was the long unused upper road which led through the wilderness by way of the Lackawaxen to the Delaware river. Over eight hundred souls, a large majority of whom were widows and orphans, were gathered together and without adequate supplies of food and without horses and oxen, these having been taken from them, were driven by the soldiers at the point of the bayonet up through the Lackawanna wilderness and over the Moosic Mountains toward the Delaware river. This forced exodus is one of the most forlorn and helpless tragedies in our history. The old bridle path, for such it only was, had grown full of brush, and for miles where it led through the swamp was well nigh impassable. Two old men John Jenkins and Stephen Gardner, who were of the leaders in 1769, were compelled to hobble on crutches all the tedious way to the Delaware, and Mr. Jenkins died as a result of his exposure, when he reached the Minisink region. For fourteen days the fugitives struggled through the wilderness. Owing to heavy rains, it was almost impossible to get through the swampy region, between the mountains and the Wallenpaupack. Women and children waded for miles, through mire and water above their knees. The scanty supplies of food were exhausted, and the weaker ones succumbed and died. When the news reached the settlements on the Delaware and in the Neversink Valley, the friendly inhabitants packed their horses with food and clothing, and went back along the trail and gathered in and fed and clothed the famished fugitives. When the terrible news reached Philadelphia, even the Pennsylvania government was appalled at the heartlessness and brutality of Patterson. President Dickinson sent Ebenezer Johnson, who had gone to Philadelphia with a pleading petition from the fugitives on the Delaware, to Sunbury with assurances, that the settlers would be restored to their possessions and retribution meted out to Patterson and his accomplices. The Northumberland authorities were ordered to enforce the law.

An order was sent by the Supreme Executive Council to Wyoming disbanding the soldiers and ordering them to quit the land. The Grand Jury of Northumberland County indicted Alexander Patterson, William McDaniel and some forty others for their outrages. Tidings were sent to the fugitives on the Delaware to stay their flight and return to their lands. Colonel Henry Antis, High Sheriff of Northumberland County with warrants for the arrest of Patterson and his cohorts came to Wyoming, but they scoffed at his writs and defied his authority. The disbanded soldiers entered the private service of the Pennsylvania claimants, under the command of Alexander Patterson and another reign of terror began.

It was evidently, then that Franklin dreamed of "The Fourteenth Commonwealth." Convinced that Pennsylvania was either too indifferent or too weak to act, and that no justice was to be obtained from the regular sources of government, it was no wonder, that this strong and honest man, incensed by the terrible suffering of his people, resorted to man's inherent right of revolution.

Of the beginning of the struggle, Franklin says: "Thirty of the settlers collected in the beginning of June in the woods on the Wilkes-Barre mountain under the command of Mr. Franklin, awaiting the Sheriff and Coroner, who came about the middle of June and Mr. Harvey who accompanied them was taken from the Sheriff and beaten cruelly. The Sheriff informed Mr. Franklin that he could not execute his writs and that he would notify the Council and Justices and receive orders to raise a posse, but that the settlers should commit no violence; and thus encouraged they awaited with patience."

On June 20th, Patterson sent word to Colonel Franklin, that his men might come in unarmed in order to secure their property and he gave his solemn pledge, that those who did so would be unmolested. Notwithstanding his promise, the few that ventured were captured, stripped of their clothing, beaten and chased to the mountains.

During this time, Franklin's men were ill provided with food, the daily rations did not exceed one half pound of beef, alternated with one half pint of ground rye. Their quarters on the mountain was called Fort Lillopee, and because of the scarcity of food, their insufficient clothing and the absence of shelter, it was determined to abandon Fort Lillopee, which was done July 3rd in the night. The men marched to Kingston and occupied three houses there. They were now supplied with milk and sufficient food and their numbers were considerably increased. Some of their former enemies, evidently anticipating their eventual success, and in order to gain their favor rendered them support.

Benjamin Harvey, who had been sent to Sunbury to procure the assistance of the sheriff and by him dispatched to Philadelphia to the Chief Justice, returned on July 11th with word from the sheriff that he could grant no assistance. Franklin says "We were now convinced no relief was designed for us."

The indignities to which they had been subjected, the neglect and failure of the Pennsylvania government to do its duty and administer impartial justice, made inevitable Franklin's future course and once embarked upon his grand design, he was not the man to turn back. On the morning of July 20th, he ordered Major Joel Abbott with twenty-three men to march to Shawnee for the purpose of securing the grain. This little force marched down from Forty Fort, crossed Toby's Creek near the Edwardsville bridge, and when on the Plymouth road near the top of Ross Hill, they were fired upon by a gang of Patterson's men, lying in ambush. Elisha Garrett was instantly killed and Chester Peirce mortally wounded. Abbott's men, who understood Indian fighting and were gallant fellows, sought the shelter of the tree trunks and returned a spirited fire. So fierce was their resistance, that the enemy soon broke and fled in confusion, leaving two of their number badly wounded. The following day, Garrett and Peirce were buried, and on July 22nd Colonel Franklin marched his forces which consisted of forty-three effective men and twenty invalids, old men and boys to Shawnee, where they found only the Pennamite women in possession of the Yankee homes. Word was sent to the garrison to come and take them away which was done and Franklin's men repossessed the town.

Patterson's people occupied the fort and town of Wilkes-Barre and the following morning Franklin began its reduction. The siege of Wilkes-Barre can be told in no more dramatic manner than in the words of Franklin himself, whose narrative continues as follows: "July 23rd, marched in the morning to Wilkes-Barre and the enemy began a heavy fire with their field piece but none ventured from the fortification. The enemy had two four pounders, two swivels, and a wall piece guarded by a number of outworks and 200 men, at least three times our number. Mr. Franklin took possession of the height east of the town and cut off communication with the grist mill. At 9 A. M. a small party was sent to attack the mill, guarded by a block house and twenty ruffians. At 10 A. M. Mr. Franklin sent a letter giving them two hours to evacuate the mill, which was done, and was then occupied by twelve of our old men. At 11 o'clock we took possession of two outhouses on the east of the town and within musket shot of the garrison in face of an incessant fire.

One man was slightly injured. During the night we took possession of several empty houses on Second Street, South and South east from the garrison.

"July 24 continued to advance toward the block house directing our fire at the flash from their portholes and compelled them to quit their outposts on the east of the town and at 1 P. M. they set fire to the town and burned twenty-three of the dwellings, the enemy retreating to the garrison through the fire and smoke. At 2 P. M. Captain Swift was detached with twenty-six soldiers to the post on the west of the garrison.

"The night following began our intrenchments one at Swifts, within twenty rods of two block houses another on the south-east within good rifle shot of a principal blockhouse. A party of five men were sent on the other side of the river and dug a trench and prevented the enemy from getting water from the river. Completed our intrenchments the same night, undiscovered.

"Sunday July 25th enemy began firing but our fire silenced their field pieces and compelled them to close their embrasures. We surrounded them in a half circle which extended a half mile. The enemy was still in possession of four small block houses. Several beeves which the enemy had for meat were killed by our fire and they were prevented from removing them.

"Monday July 26 the enemy began their fire but were more closely confined. William Smith of our men was killed near Swift's quarters.

"Tuesday July 27, we discovered an intrenchment begun in the night to reach a well of water. We heard the working of a samp mortar denoting they were out of flour. Mr. Franklin was slightly wounded.

"Wednesday July 28 enemy grew more silent. They were in possession of a strong block house on the south of the garrison. It was determined to roast them from that position. A machine was prepared, undiscovered by the enemy. A pair of wagon wheels with timber eighteen feet in length, to trail on the ground in the rear of the axle tree was used and upon this were loaded straw, pitch knots, and other combustibles. The following night the enemy discharged two of the captured inhabitants, who reported that the garrison was reduced to a pint of rye pounded in samp mortars and that they were in want of water.

"Thursday July 29, Captain John Swift rolled the machine but the night was clear and we were discovered and subjected to a heavy fire; but they proceeded to roll it against the block house, covering the door and portholes, when they set it on fire. The guard except the lieutenant escaped through a window, but the machine not being spiked was rolled back by Lieutenant Read with a spike and the house was saved. The next day one of our men Nathan Stevens was killed.

"Friday July 30, the enemy was in a panic. At 4 P. M. Thomas Hewitt, John Scott and McChord arrived from Northumberland County and notified us, that the whole power of the county would place us in possession, if we ceased hostilities.

"Saturday July 31 the enemy sent proposals, for a cessation of hostilities, they to return to their possessions until the dispute was decided. These were rejected. At 5 P. M. it was agreed that hostilities would cease, the garrison to remain silent until information should be received from the government.

"Sunday August 1 in the evening, word was received, that Major James Moore, Henry Shoemaker and John Armstrong and William McDaniel and ruffians to the number of forty had marched to Locust Hill, and thirty five of our best men under

Captain John Swift were detached and marched immediately and secreted themselves in the Great Swamp. Robert Martin, Thomas Hewitt, Boyer, Getling, and David Meade, Justices of Northumberland arrived and said, they were instructed by the government to stop hostilities and execute the laws. They required us to lay down our arms, but we declined unless the enemy would do likewise. In the afternoon, a prisoner taken by Swift was brought in with a letter from Major Moore to Patterson urging him not to surrender the garrison, because relief was coming and the Connecticut people would be destroyed.

"Monday August 2, quiet. At 11 P. M. Swift returned with his party and reporting a battle near a block house at Locust Hill in the Great Swamp, twenty two miles from Wyoming, and that he had killed and wounded several of the enemy and that only one of ours was slightly injured. A small force was left at the block house.

"Tuesday August 3, quiet. The justices with the sheriff permitted to go to the garrison but the garrison refused to surrender.

"Wednesday and Thursday August 4 and 5. Proposals for a settlement were made. They urged us to give up our arms but we insisted that as the enemy was the aggressor they should do so first.

"Friday August 6, the justices urged us to surrender and made fair promises. Mr. Franklin requested them to make their demands in writing which was done. They promised they would disarm the garrison and that Patterson and their leading characters should be arrested, and we should be reinstated in our possessions. If the garrison refused to deliver their arms, ours were to be restored. At 2 P. M. we paraded, grounded our arms and surrendered to the government. The justices returned at 6 P. M. and said the garrison were obstinate and would not surrender their arms. Whereupon the sheriff delivered our arms back to us. Mr. Franklin addressed the justices and they informed us that we had complied with the laws and they had no further demands. They requested us to give up the siege, and return to our homes and secure our grain, and if the enemy attempted to disturb us to defend ourselves. They informed us, that the militia was on the march from Northampton County to enforce the laws, and if in want of further assistance they would call on us as they were determined to compel the garrison to due submission. Accordingly we dispersed crossing the river that evening. During the siege, we lost two men killed and three slightly wounded."

A meeting of the settlers was held at Kingston on Saturday August 7, and a committee was appointed to secure the grain of the absent settlers and to collect money to pay for the ammunition used in the siege of Wilkes-Barre.

The next Sunday, Colonel John Armstrong Secretary of Pennsylvania arrived. He was accompanied by John Boyd, Esq. of the Executive Council and about 400 Northampton County militia under the command of Colonel Craig. It was announced to Franklin and the settlers, that Colonel Armstrong proposed to take the rioters who had dispossessed the Connecticut people, and that he would do only the most strict and inpartial justice. This was the famous John Armstrong who wrote the "Newburgh Addresses." He was born at Carlisle in 1758, son of that other John Armstrong who was the Pennamite envoy to old Governor Roger Wolcott in 1754. He was educated at the College of New Jersey and served as a major during the Revolution. He married the sister of Chancellor Livingston in 1789, and removed to New York, where in 1801 he was elected to the United States Senate. From 1804 to 1810 he was United States minister to France. From July 1812 to January 1813 he was brigadier general in the United States army, when he was appointed by President Madison, Secretary of War, serving until 1814 when his unpopularity forced him to resign. Henry Adams says "In spite of Armstrong's services, abilities and experience, something in his character always created distrust." After his resignation as Secretary of War, he lived in retirement and somewhat in disgrace, at Red Hook N. Y. where he died April 1, 1843.

This man, for his conduct at Wyoming, has been justly execrated, and the last embittered year of his life was a just retribution, for the evil that he had done. Under the honeyed words, with which, he announced his purpose was concealed the basest treachery. The day of his arrival, Armstrong through the medium of Robert Martin and David Meade requested Colonel Franklin to assemble his men the next day under arms and he assured him, that no advantage would be taken of them. Franklin says "Monday August 9 Martin and Meade were consulted to know the reason of our being called to assemble with our arms. They replied that Armstrong was here to execute the laws, and that Patterson's company had been disarmed and were prisoners and would be committed to jail or placed under bail. We should surrender our arms, so that they could make a favorable report to government. They pledged their lives and sacred honors, that no advantage would be taken of us, and that our arms would be returned to us in a week and we should be repossessed. With this we complied."

"Friday August 10, we assembled at Wilkes-Barre when Mr. Franklin and Mr. Johnson addressed Colonel Armstrong requesting an interview, previous to laying down our arms. No answer was returned until 1 P. M. when Mr. Franklin was taken to Colonel Armstrong, who said they were well satisfied with our conduct but as the garrison had surrendered, they desired to be witnesses to our submission, and he pledged himself that he should do the most perfect and impartial justice and that a small number would probably be required to give bail, but in a few days, we should be reinstated in our possessions and have the privileges of free citizens. At 2 P. M. seventy-five of us paraded under arms. Colonel Armstrong formed the militia three hundred into a hollow square, into which we marched and grounded our arms, which were taken up and piled. Colonel Armstrong then in a haughty manner said to Mr. Franklin, we must consider ourselves, his prisoners. Our arms were then delivered to our enemies. Colonel Armstrong informed us, we would be permitted to give bail but no Connecticut settler would be considered a freeholder and only those who held by Pennsylvania title would be so considered. Armstrong and Boyd withdrew and called in counsel, James Logan a mulatto from Northampton County, a well known villain and enemy of ours. Whether the African was invested with predominant authority from government, or only called in counsel for directions on account of his having supereminent abilities we were not informed. When the counsel closed, Armstrong told us to prepare for a march. Mr. Franklin reproached him for his conduct and for his arming our enemies."

"We were soon marched to the garrison and thirty who had been in the action at Locust Hill were confined in a house owned by Mr. Slocum, and Mr. Franklin and forty others were confined in Colonel Butler's house. The next day Franklin, Johnson, Slocum and Peirce were admitted to bail, but they refused to take bail for any others. We complained bitterly, and Martin and Meade informed us that their authority was superseded which was unknown to them, when we resigned our arms, and that they had been deceived."

On August 13, Colonel Henry Antis, sheriff of Northumberland County arrived and proposed, that the prisoners be surrendered to him, but this request Armstrong refused. The next day, the thirty prisoners composing the Locust Hill party were coupled together with irons and guarded by 150 militia were marched to Easton jail. A few days after, Armstrong's forces evicted the settlers and reinstated the Pennamites. The remainder of the prisoners were marched to Sunbury, where Sheriff Antis, who was their friend, admitted them to bail. The Assembly appointed a committee, upon which were placed Armstrong and Boyd, and it was subservient to the Pennsylvania claimants and granted no relief. During the remainder of August and September, the monotonous tale of indignities, injustice and outrage continued. But the Connecticut people at last took courage and under Captain Swift and his men who had escaped from the Easton jail began an attack on the garrison, but Swift was wounded and his party withdrew without taking it. Colonel Armstrong returned from Philadelphia, and on October 17 took some thirty prisoners and confined them in the guard house.

Colonel Franklin and twenty two other well armed Yankees now fortified themselves in four small houses, which stood above Abraham's Creek on the farm of Richard Brockway near the bend of Wyoming Avenue, a little below the Swetland place, in Kingston Township. Here they were attacked on the 18th of October at noon by 150 of the enemy. They were surrounded and a furious assault was made, but so spirited was their fire that the enemy were repelled. They finally withdrew leaving one dead and carried away with them several others who were killed and wounded. The only one of Franklin's party, injured was his intimate friend William Jackson. Seizing the rifle wet with the blood of his devoted friend, Franklin raised it above his head and there in the presence of his soldiers took a solemn oath which Mr. Miner has recorded as follows: "That he would never lay down his arms until death should arrest his hand or Patterson and Armstrong be expelled from Wyoming, and the people restored to their rights of possession and a legal trial guaranteed to every citizen by the constitution, by justice and by law."

Reinforcements came in and with thirty seven men Franklin followed them to Wilkes-Barre where during the night he was reinforced. He says "We were convinced our only recourse was in arms."

On October 20th Armstrong continued his dispossession of the settlers. Robert Jameson aged eighty years and his wife, aged seventy two were turned out of their home at Shawnee and suffered great indignities. Armstrong and Patterson had their forces gathering corn and buckwheat on the Kingston meadows, under the protection of the guns of the garrison.

The Pennsylvania claimants had made every effort to expel the tenacious Yankees and now their position was becoming untenable. F. A. Muhlenberg President of the Council of Censors, a Pennsylvania institution, which exercised some control over the other branches of government, was interested in behalf of the Yankees. Armstrong had little support among the people, the militia refused to march and the people were becoming indignant. All the Connecticut men indicted at Sunbury were acquitted, and the bill, against Franklin and forty one others, charged with treason, was ignored.

A jury at Sunbury found Major James Moore and Henry Shoemaker and others of Patterson's men guilty and they were fined. Colonel Franklin returned to his headquarters at Brockways. David Meade and John Seely, two of the justices fled, and in the latter part of November sensing, that they had failed Armstrong and Patterson left. On November 27th, the Pennamite forces evacuated the garrison at 11 o'clock at night and slunk away into the mountains; and the following day Franklin's men demolished the garrison and removed the field pieces. They ordered the few remaining Pennamites out, and by December 1st says Franklin "Had fully repossessed themselves."

During 1785 and 1786, Wyoming was free of the turmoil of preceding years and yet it was a period of great activity pregnant with plans for the formation of the new state. The Pennsylvania claimants chagrined and discouraged by their failure remained quiescent; and the Pennsylvania people disgusted at the disgraceful manner in which their great state had been used to foster private greed, frowned upon any further coercion. Henry Antis, Sheriff of Northumberland County, the resolute and steadfast friend of the Connecticut people left his writs against the Yankee leaders unserved, until cited by the state for his delinquency.

The only government carried on in the territory from Nescopeck to Tioga Point was that of Franklin and his friends. To casual observation, the success of the Yankees seemed assured. Pennsylvania had apparently quit. For four years, she had possessed the jurisdiction established by the Decree of Trenton, and yet her sovereignty had not prevailed. A little band of settlers firmly wedded to the soil had repelled their aggressors time and again. Overwhelmed by the number of invaders, they had been many times evicted from the land, yet in the end they had always won.

But there is a propitious time in the affairs of states, as well as in that of individual men, and the new commonwealth in 1785 and 1786 had no chance to win. The seed, of its failure, had been planted in 1773 by the miserable fabric of administration created by the Susquehanna Company. Had the settlers on the Susquehanna Purchase, then possessed a leader of the resolution and design of Franklin, the success of the new state would have been assured. Had the Wyoming settlers in 1773, before the extension of Connecticut jurisdiction by the creation of the town of Westmoreland resolved themselves into a sovereignty and created executive power, their position legally and morally would have been impregnable. This was the action of the settlers on the New Hampshire grants, at their meeting at Westminister in 1776 and it placed them out of the jurisdiction of either New Hampshire or New York, and created the State of Vermont. Had the Connecticut settlers, in 1774, created a separate jurisdiction, they would have established their independence by the repulsion of the Plunket invaders in 1775, and while it is improbable that the Continental Congress would have recognized their status any more, than it did that of Vermont, it would have mattered little, then. The State of Connecticut having the better title to the land would have readily relinquished all its rights, to a sovereignty, established by its own people who had actually preempted and settled the soil. In fact, the only action Connecticut ever took was a reluctant and indifferent one, never to the advantage and support of the colonists on the Susquehanna. Pennsylvania was then governed by her proprietors, for whom the people had little sympathy and to whom they rendered scant support. Consequently their attitude to the whole Wyoming affair was an indifferent one, they regarding it as a private land squabble, and immaterial to their interests whether the Connecticut people or the Proprietors prevailed. The Yankees would have had the seven years during the Revolution (when all questions of disputed territory were held by Congress in abeyance) in which to strengthen their sovereignty.

In 1782, the Confederation would have had no jurisdiction. Connecticut would not have been a party to the dispute, having either previously relinquished all her right to the actual settlers, or never having asserted her jurisdiction; and consequently Pennsylvania being the only litigant, there would not have been a dispute between two sovereign states to be settled in the manner prescribed by the Articles of Confederation. Hence, there would have been no court, and no Decree of Trenton, and Pennsylvania's only recourse would have been to the arbitrament of arms to which public opinion would not then accede; it being recognized in the settlement of disputes over territory, that the right of property belonged to those who had actually preempted and settled the land. Moreover, public opinion would not have permitted Pennsylvania to destroy a sovereignty which had existed for so long a period. By the creation of the Town and County of Westmoreland, Connecticut exercised her sovereignty over the disputed region, and thus was conferred upon the Confederation, jurisdiction to settle the dispute. This legal jurisdiction having once attached and the dispute (no matter if the decision was tainted) having been determined, Wyoming became a legal part of Pennsylvania and any subsequent attempt to sever it was necessarily futile. The American regard for law, which then prevailed rendered any illogical attempt at severance impossible, and the same regard for law rendered, any coercive measures upon the part of Pennsylvania to evict the actual settlers from their possessions, ultimately futile. This latter position Franklin always maintained and in the end due to his personal insistence Pennsylvania finally acceded. In 1785, he took the converse of the first position, and while his action then was illogical and illtimed, it probably brought about, sooner, a just and equitable determination.

There is probably more romance in the life that fails, than in the life that succeeds; and surely there is more romance in the story of the "Fourteenth Commonwealth," than in the history of the states. Convinced as he says "that our only recourse was in arms", Colonel Franklin determined to people the land with men of kindred race and thought; so that when the final struggle began, he had ample forces at his command. To accomplish this, he first secured control of a tremendous instrumentality, the lure of free and fertile land. Imagine this indefatigable man, in the full strength of his young manhood, just past thirty five, defying the greatest of the sovereign states and starting on a course of action which to say the least was constructive treason and punishable on the gallows. Without means, his only resource being a partly cleared and poorly cultivated farm in Huntington Township; without important family connections, which meant so much in our early days; and yet with an almost superhuman energy, moulding men of higher social state, and more influential position to his own way of thought. About the first of February 1785, he petitioned the General Assembly and on February 8th, it appointed John Bayard, Bartholomew Fraser and George Smith a committee, who came to Wyoming but returned, however without effecting any business.

During the winter and again in the spring, Franklin was in Connecticut. He visited the old shareholders of the Susquehanna Company and infused them with something of his zeal. He pointed out the wrongs, the settlers had suffered, the indignities they had endured, appealed to the avarice of the shareholders, by showing them the threatened destruction of their property rights and exhorted them to a just vengeance against their despoilers and oppressors. First to Windham and Lebanon, thence to Colchester and down to Lyme, back to Hartford and

Windsor, Franklin went, and finally to Farmington to consult with his friend, William Judd. Wherever a shareholder might be, however remote, his farm among the snow capped Connecticut hills, Franklin sought him out and pleaded his cause. Back to Wyoming, he came to see there was no dereliction there; and early in the spring he was in Connecticut again. Some times he travelled by horse but generally on foot, for he was poor. Franklin painted his picture well and finally stirred the men of steady habits to the action which he sought. He was on the Susquehanna in May, and rejoiced in the final expulsion of his enemy, David Meade.

On May 11th, Meade addressed a letter to Colonel Butler and Captain Schott, stating his intention to desist acting further as a magistrate and saying he had just been informed a party was forming to drive out all Pennsylvania claimants, which was unnecessary as all contemplated leaving immediately.

In July, Franklin was in Connecticut pleading with the old shareholders to grant half shares in the Susquehanna Purchase as a bounty to the recruits, with whom he proposed to populate and secure the land. On July 13, 1785 there was a fruition of his labors, and at a meeting of the proprietors held in Hartford on that day it was voted "That every able bodied and effective man approved by any one of the Company's Committee, not being a proprietor, and that will repair to Wyoming, submit himself to the orders of the Company and their committee at that place shall become a half share proprietor in said company, entitled to all the benefits of any proprietor thereof, that has paid his full taxes to this time; provided he remains in said country for the space of three years and do not depart therefrom without the permission of the committee; and also provided that such half share proprietor do not exceed four hundred acres, and provided they arrive there by the first day of October next."

On the committee, then appointed were among others; John Franklin, Zebulon Butler and Obadiah Gore. It was also voted to sell six hundred whole shares. On July 19th, Franklin was on his way to Wyoming, for at Poughkeepsie he addressed a letter to William Samuel Johnson at Philadelphia. A few days, thereafter he arrived at Kingston, where a meeting of the settlers was held, and he addressed them on the Hartford meeting.

A steady stream of sturdy young men from New England attracted by the half share bounty now flowed into the colony and were mainly settled in the upper townships along the Susquehanna. How many came, we have no means of knowing, but as the result of the Susquehanna Company's action and the migration which followed, the later counties of Susquehanna, Bradford and Wyoming were populated. Franklin says "In the month of November, the settlers had got to be numerous; a meeting was called and about four hundred were present. A regiment was formed and officers appointed." It was at this muster, that Franklin was elected colonel. Continuing he says, "A form of government, November 25, 1785, was also established by the authority of the people to remain in force until law should be established on constitutional principles. A committee of directors was also appointed to regulate the affairs of the settlement, agreeable to the form of government adopted and upwards of four hundred subscribed their names to support the committee or directors in the execution of the important trust imposed in them."

Two subsequent meetings of the Susquehanna Company were held, one at Hartford May 17, 1786 at which Colonel Elizur Talcott was moderator and Samuel Gray clerk, when it was determined "to support and maintain their claims to the lands aforesaid and effectually justify and support the settlers therein." In place of the former committee, John Franklin, General Ethan Allen, John Jenkins and Zebulon Butler were appointed. The settlers on the Susquehanna chose as their committee to regulate the police of the settlement: John Franklin, John Jenkins, John Paul Schott, Ebenezer Johnson and Dr. William Hooker Smith. Another meeting of the Susquehanna Company was held at Hartford December 26, 1786, at which Colonel Gad Stanley was moderator and Joel Barlow clerk. "The following commissioners were appointed: William Judd, Samuel Gray, Joel Barlow, Oliver Wolcott, Alexander Wolcott, Gad Stanley, Joseph Hamilton, Dr. Timothy Hosmore, Zebulon Butler, Nathan Denison, Obadiah Gore, John Franklin, Zerah Beach, Simon Spaulding, John Jenkins, John Paul Schott, Abel Peirce, John Batle, Peter Loop, John Bay, and Ebenezer Gray; and with power to determine whenever a form of internal government shall be established in that country, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to do and transact any other matter and things which they may judge necessary for the security and protection of the settlers on said lands and for the benefit of the company of proprietors, hereby ratifying and confirming whatever said commissioners may do in the premises."

During the year 1786, the bold spirits, who had determined upon the dismemberment of Pennsylvania, formulated a plan of government, and early in April there appeared in Wyoming, one of the most celebrated characters of the Revolution. An adept in maintaining squatter sovereignty, bluff and bold, the hero of Ticonderoga, inspired awe and wonder. There is something in the name and fame of Ethan Allen, even in this prosaic age, that makes the blood tingle and heightens the imagination. What American has not been enthralled with patriotic pride, when he read the story of the little column of Connecticut farmer boys, under their daring leader, winding their way single file through the green hills of Vermont, at dead of night to the great fortification of Ticonderoga, with its hundred guns; and there within the mighty parapets, which had defied ten thousand soldiers under Abercrombie, striking down the British flag, "In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress."

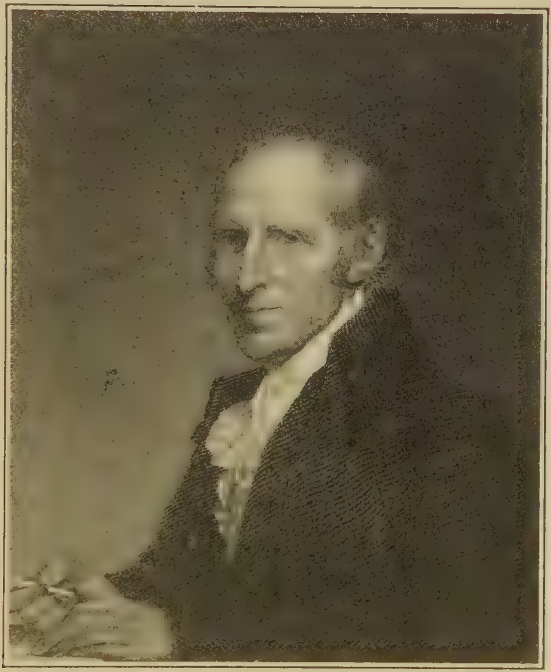
Allen dickered with Franklin and the Yankee leaders and for the promised support of the Green Mountain Boys was granted many thousand acres of the Susquehanna lands. His aid thus secured, thenceforth he served upon the committee and took a prominent part in the scheme for the formation of the new state.

Many men from Connecticut and Massachusetts spread their settlements along the Tunkhannock and Wyalusing and crowded the fertile meadows of Claverack and Ulster. A thousand new clearings in the wilderness, and an endless stream of vigorous emigrants from the East with their flocks and herds, Franklin's regiment of six hundred men, the oncoming Green Mountain Boys and above all the figure and fame of Ethan Allen, sobered the responsible leaders of Pennsylvania, and brought them to a realization of the terrible muddle Patterson and Armstrong had made.

If the dismemberment of their state was to be prevented, immediate action of the right kind was necessary. Government from Northampton and Northumberland was now impossible, and if the great northern domain was retained, all political power therein must be thrown into the hands of the Yankee settlers themselves. Keen observers among the Pennsylvanians had not failed to note, that some of the old Yankee leaders were no longer prominent in the affairs of the colony. The rise of the new leaders, and the dominant personality of Franklin had aroused the envy and resentment of those, who thought they themselves ought to lead; and while they silently acquiesced, because their property rights had not been recognized by Pennsylvania, the time was ripe for overtures of peace. It is evident, that the Pennsylvania leaders were well informed, as to the secret sentiments of a considerable number of the envious and discontented Yankees, for September 25, 1786, the legislature erected the County of Luzerne and fixed the second Tuesday of October for the election of officers. But on that day, no officers were chosen and the organization of the new county was consequently in abeyance. The act provided for the holding of court at the house of Zebulon Butler and appointed as commissioners to secure land for county buildings: Zebulon Butler, Nathaniel Landon, Jonah Rogers, John Phillips and Simon Spaulding (See Smith's Laws Vol. 2 page 386).

The promoters of separation were not inactive and as stated above held their meeting on December 27th and created the Directory or Grand Executive Council in whom reposed the affairs of government and the destinies of the new commonwealth. On the same day, the General Assembly of Pennsylvania passed a supplement to the act creating the County of Luzerne, fixing the first day of February for an election to choose county officers and appointing, Timothy Pickering, Zebulon Butler and John Franklin to notify the electors. Thus on the same day the opposing lines were formed.

Late in the summer of 1786, Colonel Timothy Pickering visited Wyoming while on his way to inspect a tract of land which he had purchased at Starucca in what is now Susquehanna County, where his son Timothy settled in 1801 and where he died and is buried. Colonel Pickering evidently attended a meeting of the settlers held at Wyoming, August 29th and learned, that the older inhabitants settled on the better farms in the Wyoming Valley would be satisfied to submit to Pennsylvania, if quieted in their possessions obtained before the Decree of Trenton, but that the half share men and a considerable number of the old shareholders contended for the whole Susquehanna Purchase. At the meeting, it was determined to demand the whole purchase, Franklin and Jenkins being appointed the committee. It is not to be presumed, that Pickering was a spy sent here by Pennsylvania, but rather a keen observer, who sounded the leading Yankees and learned their true and conflicting sentiments. Upon his return to Philadelphia he was visited by the Honorable James Wilson, who diligently inquired concerning the temper and desires of the Connecticut settlers. Pickering says, "I informed him that they were entirely satisfied with the Constitution of Pennsylvania and were ready to



Colonel Timothy Pickering

submit to its government provided they could be quieted in the possession of their farms". It was evidently then, that Mr. Wilson suggested that Colonel Pickering undertake the organization of the new County of Luzerne. The choice was wisely made.

Timothy Pickering was a Yankee of old stock and thoroughly understood the character of the people with whom he had to deal. Born at Salem, Massachusetts, he was educated at Harvard College, studied law but never actively engaged in the practice of that profession. He was clerk of the Essex County Court for many years and at the outbreak of the Revolution commanded a regiment of Minute Men. He served in the Revolution, was Adjutant General of the Continental Army and later its Quartermaster General, and became an intimate friend of General Washington. He was Secretary of the Board of War until the close of the Revolution, when he engaged in business in Philadelphia which was not successful; and thus, when Mr. Wilson made his offer was a politician out of a job. He came to Wyoming in the winter of 1787 and conducted the February election at which county officers were chosen. Mr. Pickering represented the County of Luzerne in the Pennsylvania Convention of 1787, which ratified the Federal Constitution and in the Convention of 1789 and 1790, which adopted the State Constitution. He resided at the house which he erected on South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, which is still standing, until in 1791 when he was appointed first Postmaster General of the United States. He was Secretary of War in 1795, and in the same year succeeded Edmund Randolph as Secretary of State, which position he continued to occupy, under president Adams until 1800. He was the chief lieutenant of Alexander Hamilton and was United States Senator from Massachusetts for eight years and ended his political career as a member of the House of Representatives. Thus a man of superior ability and great attainments was chosen to destroy the Fourteenth Commonwealth.

At the election held in February, Colonel Nathan Denison was elected member of the Supreme Executive Council; John Franklin member of the Assembly and Lord Butler, sheriff. Franklin would not serve refusing to be bribed by office, and remained true to the "Fourteenth Commonwealth."

The impression has always prevailed that a constitution was drawn up and officers selected but it has rested almost entirely upon tradition. Mr. Miner says, some one told General William Ross, that William Judd was to be governor and John Franklin, lieutenant governor; and also that a certain Captain Richards told him (Mr. Miner) that he had seen the constitution and that it was drawn by Oliver Wolcott. Among the Franklin papers recently found, and now at Montrose, is the interesting deposition of the Honorable William Judd of Farmington, Connecticut. Made by a man of the integrity and standing of Mr. Judd, and by the one whom tradition says was to be governor of the new state, it establishes the historical certainty of the "Fourteenth Commonwealth."

The movement came nearest its realization in the winter and spring of 1787. There is a tradition that the capital of the new state was to be at Tioga Point, and that General Ethan Allen had his headquarters there. Miner says in the spring of 1787, Allen was here arrayed in cocked hat and his famous regimentals. The town of Athens had been located at the Point and laid out by Colonel Zebulon Butler, Obadiah Gore, Esq. and Colonel Nathan Denison, a committee of the Susquehanna Company, May 9, 1786. It was to Athens, that Colonel Franklin retired upon the collapse of his grand scheme; and there he conducted his famous land office and issued the Susquehanna grants which populated the famous Northern Tier. Superbly situated at the confluence of the North Branch of the Susquehanna, there were many reasons, why Athens should be the capital of the new commonwealth. Far removed from the Pennsylvania settlements, if the contest came to an armed struggle, it was much more difficult to capture, than either Kingston or Wilkes-Barre. The New England people now pouring in to Western New York, under claim of Massachusetts rights, provided kindred and sympathetic neighbors, to the capital, and perhaps substantial supporters in time of war. Moreover in 1786, the people living on the West Branch in the Lycoming region had expressed a desire to join the new commonwealth and a committee had journeyed there and entered into arrangements with them. To these people on the West Branch, Athens was easily accessible by the way of Lycoming and Sugar Creeks and the old Indian trails without crossing territory acknowledged to be Pennsylvania. It was easily reached by the settlers, on the Delaware and the Wallenpaupack, by the trail which ran along the former river and across the Susquehanna hills to the Great Bend. Then, there was the further reason that in the minds of many, there existed a lurking desire to wrest the lands in Southwestern New York which Massachusetts had claimed, and together with Westmoreland form a great commonwealth and another Yankee state.

Colonel Pickering says in his account, that he understood, that the name of the new commonwealth was to be "Westmoreland."

Shays Rebellion in Western Massachusetts collapsed in February 1787, and many of these rebel soldiers, now fugitives, were easily recruited for the army of the "Fourteenth Commonwealth." To these men who had readily followed a soldier, as unknown and insignificant as Shays, the name and fame of Ethan Allen specially appealed. By March, the great scheme had been definitely plotted out, the civil officers of the "Fourteenth Commonwealth" selected, its military commander General Ethan Allen installed, and the forward movement about to begin, when the Pennsylvania Legislature in great alarm passed the Confirming Act, and rent the Yankee ranks.

This act was passed on the 28th of March 1787, and confirmed to the inhabitants of the County of Luzerne their heirs and assigns, who were actual settlers, the lands they occupied at the time and which had been allotted to them before the Decree of Trenton. It appointed as Commissioners, Peter Muhlenberg, Timothy Pickering and Joseph Montgomery. The difference of opinion was strongly marked, whether to accept or reject the compromise and the feeling became very acute. The commissioners appointed by the Susquehanna Company had the powers of a court and on March 1, 1787, a court was organized at the tavern of John Paul Schott consisting of Zebulon Butler, John Franklin, John Jenkins and John Paul Schott. Lord Butler was appointed clerk and the case tried was that of Matthias Hollenback against Dorcas Stewart for land in Hanover Township. That night the court adjourned to meet the next morning at 9 o'clock at the house of Lord Butler in Kingston. The last meeting at Mr. Butler's in Kingston was on March 27th, when it adjourned to meet at Captain Schott's on April 2nd. The last meeting was held May 1st and there were present John Franklin, John Jenkins, and John Paul Schott. Lord Butler resigned as clerk. It is significant, as showing, that the Butlers had by this time severed all relations, with Franklin's party and definitely cast their fortunes with Pickering. With them went Colonel Denison, Matthias Hollenback, James Sutton and Dr. William Hooker Smith. While adhering to Franklin and the new state idea were: the Jenkinses, the Slocums, Spauldings, Satterlees and most of the people up the river.

Early in May, it was determined to hold a great meeting of the settlers at old Forty Fort. It was the greatest gathering ever held in the Wyoming settlements. The prosperous farmers living in the old settling towns of Kingston, Plymouth, Hanover, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and Exeter were all there, and the remote regions were also well represented. They came from Huntington and Salem and Claverack and Ulster. And hundreds of the poor, but hardy woodsmen, who had pitched their claims along the Meshoppen and the Wyalusing gathered to support Franklin. James Sutton was chosen Moderator, and Colonel Pickering made the first address, plighting the faith of Pennsylvania to maintain the confirming law. Colonel Pickering in his account of the troubles says"Just as I was closing prosperously as I thought my month's labor, a pretty shrewd man, John Jenkins said 'that if they should enact a quieting law they would repeal it as soon as the Connecticut settlers submitted and were completely saddled with the laws of the state'. This was prophetic, but I had no faith in the prophecy."

Pickering was followed by Franklin, who spoke with great earnestness and boldly charged some of the Yankees with faithlessness and treachery to the cause. He charged them with betraying, the half share men, whom they had lured to the region with promises of support, and whose presence in such great numbers had alone wrested from Pennsylvania, all the concessions she had made to the old proprietors. After all, we have to admire the steadfastness and loyalty of Franklin to the half share proprietors, and even Pickering himself in his account indirectly admits that Franklin and Jenkins were right and had the true conception of Pennsylvania's faithless purpose and policy. He says "If Pennsylvania had manifested any degree of generosity or magnanimity, she would have quieted the settlers in their possessions. But instead of this the conduct of the state has consisted of a series of impolitic measures, sometimes lenient, sometimes severe and through the abuse of power by the persons appointed to execute the orders of the state, sometimes cruel and oppressive."

The caustic comments of Colonel Franklin aroused the rage of Matthias Hollenback and he struck the speaker in the face with his riding whip. Immediately there was a great outbreak and the Yankee Witenagemote broke up in a turmoil and confusion, equal to the close of a fair in County Kildare.

Not until May 29th, did Pickering organize his new County of Luzerne. In the meantime Franklin journeyed hither and thither stirring the settlers with his appeals, and the establishment of the county machinery he did not allow to interfere with his endeavors. After a day's toil in the field, Franklin would journey at night to some hunter's cabin remote in the hills and secure his adhesion to the cause. From place to place, he went and the older people, liked to tell how when he came to the settlements, all the neighbors would gather about the fireplace of the cabin, where he stayed, until late at night and listen to his fascinating talk. He could tell in a most interesting manner of the great events, in most of which, he had borne a prominent part and could speak of the great leaders of the Revolution many of whom he had intimately known. He knew how to mould men to his will and had the great gift of exciting popularity. Pickering had his county but Franklin had the people.

Pickering sensed the outcome, if this dangerous man was not removed; but to attempt to arrest him in an open and lawful manner in the County of Luzerne would only have exposed the weakness of his authority and provoked a revolution. To circumvent Franklin, he determined upon a stratagem. Chief Justice McKean was induced to secretly issue a warrant charging Franklin with treason. This was placed in the hands of four daring men, former soldiers who journeyed to Wyoming, where they were secreted by Pickering and his friends. Franklin was then in Salem and Huntington "preparing his adherents," as Pickering says "for the explosion". Three or four days later he came to Wilkes-Barre and while standing on the river bank near the ferry of Abel Yarrington was accosted by a stranger (one of Pickering's men), who engaged him in conversation. The other three approaching unawares seized and attempted to bind him. All of Franklin's friends were away working in the fields, but he called loudly for William Slocum, whose wife made a hue and cry, so that the people soon began to gather. A message was sent to Colonel Pickering who went to the scene armed and accompanied by his servant.

Pickering says "Just as I met them Franklin threw himself off from his horse and renewed his struggle with them. His hair was dishevelled and face bloody from preceding efforts. I told the gentlemen they would never carry him off unless his feet were tied under his horse's belly. I sent for a cord. The gentlemen remounted him and my servant tied his feet. The one taking his bridle, another following behind, and the others riding one on each side, they whipped up his horse and were soon beyond the reach of his friends. I would have avoided this step, if I had not believed the welfare of the good people of the county depended on seizing the person of that daring man."

This forcible abduction of Franklin occurred on the afternoon of October 2, 1787. That night Pickering dared not spend in his home, but lay secreted in the woods for Franklin's friends on the Kingston side had gathered and crossed the river in numbers. With Griffith Evans, secretary of the Board of Commissioners, Pickering proceeded to Philadelphia and dared not return to Wyoming until January, 1788, when having interceded in obtaining a pardon for Franklin's men, he thought this intercession brought him immunity.

Franklin was confined in irons in the Philadelphia Jail and treated with great severity. Pickering having returned moved into his new home on South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre about the middle of January, 1788 and remained undisturbed. But along in April, Pickering surmised that a plot was being hatched against him from some remarks made to him by John Jenkins. During the summer the Yankee boys* got a new and determined leader, in the person of young Gideon Dudley. He organized a resolute band of some twenty young men, determined to redress the wrongs perpetrated on Colonel Franklin. On the night of June 26, 1788, Dudley surrounded the Pickering house and with some of his men, so quietly entered, that Pickering was unaware of the attack until they came to his bedchamber. When a candle was brought, he saw that the room was filled with men with blackened faces and handkerchiefs tied round their heads, and armed with guns and hatchets. They told him to dress himself warmly for he would be much in the open, and then they securely bound the colonel and led him away. At Pittston, they regaled themselves with strong drink, and then Gideon Dudley said to him "Now if you will only write two or three lines to the Executive Council they will discharge Colonel Franklin and we will release you." Instantly Pickering answered, "The Executive Council better understands their duty than to discharge a traitor to procure the release of an innocent man." They crossed the Lackawanna one of his captors carrying Pickering over and then proceeded to Gardner's Ferry, now Ransom where they crossed the Susquehanna on a scow. During the following day, tidings came up the river that the militia were gathering. They moved from place to place, but in a few days found a retreat in a sequestered valley some two or three miles from the river, where they put an iron band around Pickering's ankle, to which was attached a chain some six feet long and there they fastened him to a tree.

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*List of the "Wild Yankees" commanded by Gideon Dudley in 1788:

Zebulon Cady, Solomon Earl, Daniel Earl, Wilkes Jenkins, Ira Manville, Benedict Saterlee, John Hyde, David Woodward, Gideon Dudley, Joseph Dudley, John Whitcomb, Daniel Taylor, Timothy Kilborn, Frederick Budd, Noah Phelps, Nathan Abbott, William Carney, Aaron Kilborn.

Copied from the indictment for riot and assault and battery on Timothy Pickering, returned at September Sessions, 1788 of the Luzerne County Court.

The following were indicted for assisting the rioters:

Martin Dudley, Joseph Kilborn, Thomas Kinney, Nathan Abbott, Ephraim Tyler, Stephen Jenkins, Darius Parks, John Jenkins.

When the news reached Philadelphia, that Pickering had been captured, there was great commotion among the authorities and a proclamation was issued on July 8, 1788 by Peter Muhlenberg, President of the Council, offering a reward of $300 for the arrest of John Jenkins and John Hyde, and $100 for the arrest of Daniel Earl, Benjamin Earl, Zebulon Cady, Wilkes Jenkins, Joseph Dudley, Gideon Dudley, David Woodward, John Witcomb, Timothy Kilbourne and Thomas Kinney.

Pickering was soon after removed to Black Walnut where he was chained in the woods, some distance from the river. One day the sound of heavy musketry was heard, and soon thereafter one of his captors came back to the place where he was chained and reported, that there had been a severe engagement with the militia in which Captain Ross who commanded them had been badly wounded, and that Gideon Dudley was shot through the hand.

Pickering says "July 15, Gideon Dudley, the leader came to me and said 'Don't you wish to be set at liberty.' 'To be sure I do', I answered. 'What will you do for us if we set you at liberty', he said. 'What do you wish me to do for you', was my reply. 'Will you intercede for Colonel Franklin's pardon. 'No, I will not.' This answer confounded them and they retired and laid their heads together and then one asked 'Will you intercede for our pardons'. 'You have told me of your great men. By them you have been misled and deceived. Give me their names and I have no doubt of obtaining your pardon.' But they would not consent without going to headquarters and being instructed, and as they turned on their heels to depart, 'Stop said I', 'and knock off this chain' and they instantly took it off after I had carried it for ten days."

On July 16th, Dudley again repeated his request and upon being refused, took the prisoner to the house of one Kilbourne, where he was set at liberty after nineteen days imprisonment. There Pickering shaved for the first time during his captivity and had his first change of clothes. He was then treated to a good chicken dinner, and that afternoon some of his former captors took him in a boat down the river to Tunkhannock, where they arrived after dark. He stayed that night at the house of Zebulon Marcy.

Before he left Kilbournes, they talked about a pardon and Pickering said he would intercede for them if they would give the names of their great men, but to this Gideon Dudley gallantly replied "Whoever does it ought to go to hell and be damned everlastingly." After this, Pickering says, "They made a last request, that I write a petition for their pardon. With this undeserving as they were, I complied."

It is evident from this, that Pickering was on pretty good terms with Dudley and probably the old colonel secretly admired the young fellow's determination and courage.

The next day Colonel Pickering went to Wilkes-Barre; and Dudley and his band fled up the river, where near Wysock they were attacked by the militia under Captain Roswell Franklin and Joseph Dudley was mortally wounded and brought to Wilkes-Barre, where he died in the County Jail.

Some of the band were convicted in the Luzerne County Courts, but all broke jail except Stephen Jenkins, a brother of John, who was finally pardoned.

On September 17, 1788, Franklin made his formal submission in a letter addressed to George Logan, Peter Muhlenberg and John Paul Schott. He was brought to Wilkes-Barre the following November for trial before Chief Justice McKean, charged with high treason in endeavoring to subvert the government and to erect a new and independent state. He was represented by the Hon. George Clymer and Mr. Biddle two of the most eminent lawyers of the state. The case was however continued and Franklin admitted to bail. Like Jefferson Davis, he was never tried.

The great struggle was over. The sovereignty of Pennsylvania prevailed. Colonel Pickering returned to his native Salem and a distinguished career. Ethan Allen died at Burlington in 1789. Oliver Wolcott became Secretary of the Treasury and a distinguished Federalist leader. Joel Barlow, talented beyond his fellows, entered that life of romance which ended on the plains of Poland in the retreat of Napoleon's Grand Army from Moscow. And only Colonel Franklin, the real life and soul, the organizing genius and driving force of the great movement was left. From his home at Athens, the whilom capital of his state, the old man bent with the weight of years, surveyed in fond reminiscences the grand domain winding along the Susquehanna whose destinies once he swayed. There he lived, the grand and solitary figure of the Northern Tier, a remarkable and distinguished man; always a little feared, yet admired for the brightness of his intellect and the incorruptible struggle he carried on so long. There he died in 1831, and naught then remained of the "Fourteenth Commonwealth," save its archives, which have happily been rescued from the oblivion of a dusty garret and a deserted printing office and are now preserved some at Hartford, some at Montrose, and some at Wilkes-Barre.

CHAPTER XI.

1787—1808

SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTED TITLES

THE CONFIRMING LAW OF 1787—ACT SUSPENDED IN 1788—REPEALED IN 1790—THE GREAT CASE OF VANHORNE VS. DORRANCE—THE INTRUSION ACT OF 1795—THE COMPROMISING ACT OF 1799—THE COMMISSIONERS—THOMAS COOPER—SUSPENSION OF POWERS OF COMMISSIONERS IN 1808—DECISIONS OF THE COURTS.

As heretofore stated, the Confirming Law, passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature, March 28, 1787, was the wedge which split the Yankee settlers into two factions, the adherents of Pickering and the supporters of Franklin; and insured the successful organization of the County of Luzerne. It was the great inducement, the bribe preeminent offered by the Commonwealth, and embraced by those of the Yankees who were more materially minded than patriotic. It provided "that all the said rights or lots, now lying within the County of Luzerne, which were occupied or acquired by Connecticut claimants who were actual settlers there at or before the termination of the claim of the State of Connecticut by the Trenton Decree, aforesaid and which rights or lots were particularly assigned to the said settlers prior to the said decree, agreeable to the regulations then in force among them be and they are hereby confirmed to them and their heirs and assigns."

Resolute characters like Colonel Franklin and John Jenkins who despised the Decree of Trenton, as an adjudication dictated by policy alone, and as the miserable makeshift of politicians in Connecticut and Pennsylvania, spurned the proffered bribe. They had no confidence in the plighted faith of Pennsylvania, and with rare shrewdness, John Jenkins had declared, at the great meeting held at Forty Fort in 1787, "What security have we, that if we comply and put ourselves into your power, the state won't repeal the law and deal as treacherously as in the case of Armstrong."

And the speech of Colonel Pickering, in which he sacredly pledged his personal honor, as to the sincerity of Pennsylvania in her offer of compromise, was followed by the ringing words of Stephen Gardner, "Your lips speak fair, but oh, that there was a window in that breast, that we might read your heart."

In 1788, the operation of the Act was suspended. By the early part of 1790, the County of Luzerne was firmly established. Charges of treason and indictments for riot and subversion of government, had outlawed the Yankee leaders and paralyzed their followers.

On April 1st of that year, the Pennsylvania legislature repealed the Confirming Law, thus vindicating the prophetic words of John Jenkins, and breaking the plighted faith of a great commonwealth. Great was the consternation of those Yankees who had prostrated themselves to Pennsylvania, and great was the chagrin of even Pickering himself. Yet, the disputed titles were not settled under the reign of Timothy Pickering, for that aspiring statesman was called to a higher field. In 1791, he became Postmaster General and successively Secretary of War and Secretary of State. He was a man of ability and had the rare fortune to win the confidence and friendship of George Washington and Alexander Hamilton. No one has ever imputed to him any treachery and he was violently opposed to all the nasty business of repealing the Confirming Law. Yet, he was never essentially a part in spirit of the Wyoming Settlements, but merely an agent sent here to perform a purpose, and he gladly and most speedily returned to the more congenial haunts of his native Salem. His career was a great exemplification of the successful politician, in that, from his tender years, with the slight exception of his unfortunate experience in Philadelphia, when he tried to make a living by trade, he always held public office, and always progressed.

As will be hereafter shown, it was not due to the efforts of Pickering, nor to those of the Yankees who deserted the Fourteenth Commonwealth, but to the shrewdness, courage and perseverance of Colonel Franklin that the settlers secured their titles, and finally obtained their rights.

In 1795, was tried before Judge Patterson, in the Circuit Court of the United States, the great case of VanHorne's Lessee vs. Dorrance. It attracted national attention, lasted fifteen days, and during the proceedings, the nature of the great controversy between Connecticut and Pennsylvania was fully gone into. Many prominent men were examined, including Timothy Pickering and Robert Morris. The original Indian deed of 1754 was offered in evidence, and many depositions were read to the court, including that of Colonel Lydius, the principal agent of the Susquehanna Company in negotiating with the Six Nations. Captain William Gallup of Kingston testified in regard to the Indian battle and massacre of 1778. The case was ejectment for land in Kingston Township, claimed under the Susquehanna Company by John Dorrance, and occupied by him.

The plaintiff's title was based on Charter of Charles II to William Penn; deed of Six Nations to Thomas and Richard Penn dated November 5, 1768; lease from Thomas and Richard Penn to Thomas VanHorne dated March 1, 1769; Patent from Thomas and Richard Penn to Thomas VanHorne dated January 17, 1772; deed from Thomas VanHorne to Cornelius VanHorne lessor of the plaintiff dated November 15, 1774.

Dorrance attempted to establish his title, first under Connecticut; second under the Indians; and third under Pennsylvania. The court held that the title under Connecticut was of no avail, the land being beyond the charter limits of that state. This was hardly a correct statement, as there was tacit recognition of Connecticut's right in the conveyance by that state of its western lands to the national government, which conveyance contained the reservation of certain lands, now in Ohio, and known as the Western Reserve. The court held that the title claimed under the Indians gave the Connecticut people no rights, because the deed contained an erasure and was radically defective and faulty; and had no operation for the reason that the charter to Penn gave him the right of preemption to all lands within its limits, and subsequent laws of Pennsylvania made void every purchase from the Indians within the limits of the province. Moreover, that Connecticut gave no consent to the purchase and entry of these lands and that therefore the settlers were in legal estimation trespassers and intruders.

Judge Patterson considered the claim of title under Pennsylvania the most important part of the defendant's contention. This was founded on the Confirming Law of 1787; and he held the claim invalid, the Act being unconstitutional, because the legislature had no authority to divest a citizen of his property without just compensation; and also for the reason that the method of divestiture by the legislature and their commissioners, violated the Constitution, because private property can only be taken in three ways; by stipulation between the legislature and the proprietor; by commissioners mutually elected by the parties; and by the intervention of a jury. He held that the compensation was unjust, because it provided for an equivalent in land, whereas money is the only recognized standard of value, and that the compensation must be ascertained by a jury, and not by the Board of Property as provided for in the Act. Even, if the law was constitutional, the proceedure provided for therein must have been followed and completed, *i. e.* presentation of the settlers claim to the commissioners, an adjudication by them, a survey and return, and the issuance of a patent by the Commonwealth, before the estate passed out of the Pennsylvania claimant and became vested in the Connecticut settler. None of this had been done and consequently no Connecticut claim was valid, nor could any claim be perfected, because the operation of the Confirming Law had been suspended by the Act of March 28, 1788; and that this suspending act having been passed before the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, it violated no law, prohibiting the impairment of the obligation of a contract. He also decided that the repealing act of 1790 was valid, and was no such ex post facto law as is forbidden, no vested right being lodged in the Connecticut claimants; neither did it violate the Constitution of the United States, the contract if any, created between Pennsylvania and the Connecticut claimants by the Act of 1787, being void, because it tended to defraud the Pennsylvania claimants of their just rights.

Judge Patterson's decision was perhaps correct, and as the case though appealed was never argued and decided by the Supreme Court of the United States, it may be considered the Federal pronouncement on the much mooted subject. It has however been held, that a Federal Court has no authority to hold a state law void, because it conflicts with the state constitution; and it has also been suggested in argument, that as to lands in the Seventeen Townships, unclaimed under Pennsylvania grants, the Act of 1787, confirmed the title to them in the Connecticut claimant.

The Susquehanna Company, however continued to lay out townships, in what are now the Counties of Bradford and Susquehanna, and issue grants for thousands of acres of land. Colonel Franklin's famous land office, at Athens, did a thriving business, and the result, was the populating, of those upper districts, by many innocent and hardworking men, who were later compelled to perfect the titles to the homesteads, which they had improved, by buying, to their great sacrifice and suffering, the Pennsylvania titles. This is the part of Colonel Franklin's career, which cannot be defended, and has aroused the just suspicion, that at this time he was actuated more by private greed than by public zeal. In its later days, the Susquehanna Company departed from its ancient ways, and became merely a land jobbing and speculating concern. Franklin, however, and those associated with him, justified their proceedings, on the ground; that the Court at Trenton had never had jurisdiction and did not decide the private right of soil; that the rights of private persons were not affected thereby, and that consequently, the Susquehanna Company still owned the right of soil under their purchase from the Indians and had the right of disposal, as they saw fit. This position has been assumed in argument by those espousing the Yankee side, and was later inferentially adopted to a limited extent by some of the judges, but not so far as to overthrow the established law of Pennsylvania, which is otherwise.

The Intrusion Law passed April 11, 1795, 3 Smith's Laws 209, declared it a criminal offense; to take possession of, enter, intrude or settle on any lands in Northampton, Northumberland or Luzerne Counties, by virtue of any half share right or pretended title, not derived from the Commonwealth or late Proprietaries; to conspire for the purpose of conveying, possessing or settling any such lands under such pretended titles; or to conspire for the purpose of laying out townships in said counties, by persons not authorized by the Commonwealth. The Seventeen Townships were excluded from the operation of this Act, by a provision excluding claims for land under the Confirming Act of 1787. This exemption would seem to imply, that the State recognized that some right had been granted by the Confirming Law.

For violation of the Intrusion Act, John Franklin, Elisha Satterlee and John Jenkins were indicted and convicted and although the Act was declared constitutional, the special verdict was set aside because of an error in procedure. (See Commonwealth vs. Franklin 4 Dallas page 254; and Commonwealth vs. Franklin 4 Dallas page 314).

Under this Act, the Supreme Court (Mitchell vs. Smith, 1 Binney 109), held that a contract for the purchase of lands under Connecticut title was void; as the penalty in the Intrusion Act, implied a prohibition of such a purchase and sale. In this decision, Chief Justice Shippen expressly declared that the Decree of Trenton, while establishing the right of government in Pennsylvania, did not decide the particular titles of individuals claiming the right of soil; and Judge Brackenridge said "It is true the mouth, of the claimant paramount, the State of Connecticut, from whom the company derives their claim is shut by a decision. But this does not conclude the possessor as to right of soil, nor in fact will it conclude his exertions as to jurisdiction."

A supplement to the Intrusion Act was passed February 16, 1801 (3 Smith Laws 457), providing severe penalties, and for the appointment of agents of the Commonwealth to inspect all lands in the territory, and providing for the registration of all strangers who shall intrude upon the prohibited territory.

A further supplement was passed April 6, 1802 (3 Smith's Laws 525) making invalid all conveyances of land in the Counties of Luzerne, Lycoming and Wayne, unless title to the same was derived from the Commonwealth, and requiring all conveyances to recite the substance of the warrant, survey and statement of title from the Commonwealth, and imposing severe penalties on officers acknowledging and recording deeds for land, the title of which was not derived from the Commonwealth. The act also prohibited judges or jurors interested in any manner in the pretended claim from sitting, but excluded the Seventeen Townships from the operation of the act, save the provision as to judges and jurors.

Under this supplement, the case of Irish vs. Scovil decided, (6 Binney page 55) that a deed conveying lands within the Seventeen Townships and land without to which no title was recited was good, as to land within the townships, but that the acknowledgement was void for the land of both descriptions; and that the deed could not be read in evidence as to the land within the townships.

From 1790 to 1799, the legislature did not attempt to grant any relief to the Connecticut claimants even within the Seventeen Townships, and Judge Patterson's decision, in VanHorne vs. Dorrance seemed to deprive them, of any consolation left them, in the Confirming Act, even after its suspension and repeal. Yet the settlers within the Seventeen Townships were so firmly and long established, and their improvements had become so valuable, that both sides believed an accommodation inevitable. The Pennsylvania claimants were unable to obtain any evictions, even in the territory without the townships.

John Franklin was elected to the Legislature in 1798 and again in 1799, and there he applied his great abilities and energies toward obtaining some measure of relief. Finally on April 4, 1799 the Legislature passed the famous Compromising Act (3 Smith's Laws page 362), under which the titles in the Seventeen Townships were at last settled. By this Act three Commissioners were appointed to examine and ascertain, the quantity, quality and situation of all lands, in the Seventeen Townships, held or claimed under Pennsylvania title; and to divide the same according to the value into four classes. It was provided that the Commissioners should not proceed, until those claiming under Pennsylvania, to the extent of forty thousand acres had filed deeds of release in the Land Office; and the Connecticut settlers had also filed in the Land Office, their submission to the Commissioner's determination; also that no lands should be examined except those released. It further provided, that Pennsylvania claimants should receive certificates for their lands, to be paid in specie not exceeding $5 per acre for lands of the first class; not exceeding $3 per acre for those of the second class; and not exceeding $1.50 per acre for those of the third class; and not exceeding twenty-five cents per acre for those of the fourth class.

Any disputes were to be decided by the Board of Property subject to appeal to the courts of law; and all Pennsylvania claimants save those under disability of law were required to make application for compensation, within six months of the passage of the law. The Commissioners were also required to ascertain the rights or lots accepted by Connecticut claimants, who were actually settlers there, before the Trenton Decree, and which were particularly assigned to them, agreeably to the regulations then in force among them; and to divide the lands into four classes, according to their respective values, and to make out certificates therefor, having a draft of the survey annexed. The original settlers, their heirs or assigns were required, before January 1801 to make application, and to agree to pay the Commonwealth, in eight annual inatallments, at the rate of $2 per acre for lands of the first class; $1.20 per acre for lands of the second class; fifty cents per acre for lands of the third class; and eight and one third cents per acre for lands of the fourth class; whereupon patents, for the lands so certified and paid for, were to be issued. All claiming the provisions of the Act were required to make oath that they did not hold under joint claim from Connecticut and Pennsylvania, but exclusively held under one or the other. The method of procedure and record of proceedings were provided for; and in case of dispute between Connecticut claimants, they were given the right to have the same decided by the Commissioners, or the right to appeal, before such decision, to the Court of Common Pleas.

By a supplement, passed March 15, 1800 (3 Smith's Laws page 435), the time of receiving applications from Pennsylvania claimants was extended to October 1, 1800. By a further supplement passed April 16, 1802 (3 Smith's Laws 526) it was provided that all claimants should file their claims before August 1, 1802; and in case of sale by Connecticut claimants who had transmitted their claims, the purchasers were not required to file a new claim. By this supplement it was made the duty of the Commissioners to survey, value and certify the whole of a tract claimed by a Connecticut settler, whether released to the Commonwealth or not; and if any Pennsylvania claimant refused or neglected to release the same, before August 1, 1802, he was not entitled to recover against the Connecticut claimant holding a cerrificate, but was entitled to bring suit against the Commonwealth. All deeds and documents of title, under the Susquehanna Company were required to be surrendered by the claimants and filed with the Secretary of the Land Office.

A supplement was passed April 14, 1805 (4 Smith's Laws 265), applying to fifteen townships, and providing, that patents might be issued; and that the balance of purchase money should remain a lien until paid; and that the Westmoreland Records should be deposited with the Luzerne County, Recorder of Deeds.

A supplement passed April 9, 1807 (4 Smith's Laws 411), applying to fifteen townships, provided that Pennsylvania claimants, whether under titles prior to the Decree of Trenton, or March 28, 1787, might release their claims before August 1, 1807; and that all Connecticut claimants might apply before October 1, 1807, and that the Commissioners need not require the lands to have been occupied, prior to the Decree of Trenton; but should certify the same if under the rules of the Susquehanna Company they would have been entitled. This act also provided that the land in Wilkes-Barre facing the river should be a public common, forever.

A supplement was passed March 28, 1808 (4 Smith's Laws 534) suspending the powers of the Commissioners, and directing that all books and papers be deposited in the Land Office. This ended all proceedings under the Act of 1799, except as to Pennsylvania claimants, who had released under the supplement of April 9, 1807, and except as to the granting of patents to Connecticut settlers, who had received their certificates.

It will be observed that the latter acts only applied to fifteen townships, and the Commissioners, under the Act of 1799 did not adjust the titles in Bedford and Ulster Townships. The titles in these two townships were adjusted under the Act of March 19, 1810 (5 Smith's Laws 127) which was similar in most respects to the Act of 1799.

A supplement to the Act of 1799, passed March 20, 1810, (5 Smith's Laws 151), provided that in case of disputes between Pennsylvania claimants, the Board of Property might certify, the same to the Court of Common Pleas at the seat of government, and its decision should be final.

A supplement to the Act of 1799, passed January 23, 1811, (5 Smith's Laws 189) provided a method of payment of purchase price by any Connecticut claimant; and another supplement passed March 23, 1811 (5 Smith's Laws 216) enabled Pennsylvania claimants to bring suit against the Commonwealth in the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas.

In 1799, the attitude of the State of Pennsylvania radically changed, and it effectuated the settlement of the disputed titles, with firmness and impartiality, rendering a just compensation to the Pennsylvania claimants and confirming to the actual settlers, the Connecticut people, the fruits of their toil. The trend of the legislation thenceforth was constant and liberal, yet with a determined policy that every Pennsylvania claim should be relinquished, and every Connecticut claim confirmed; so that within the Seventeen Townships, thereafter, so far as land titles were concerned, peace should forever reign. And the Connecticut people have repaid this magnanimity, by their loyalty and contribution to the peace and prosperity of the Commonwealth.

The Commissioners, Thomas Cooper, General Steele, and Mr. Wilson of Lycoming, and afterwards John M. Taylor, Esq. were men of the highest rectitude, and they performed their duties with rare intelligence and impartiality. Thomas Cooper, Esq. was the soul of the commission. The records were kept by him and the transcript of the evidence taken by the Commissioners is in his handwriting. More to him, than any one else were the disputed titles, finally, fairly settled. Thomas Cooper was one of the most remarkable men, who had to do with the history of this region; and his career, one of the most interesting in the early development of our national life. He was born in London, October 22, 1759, and educated at Oxford. Threatened with prosecution, because of his sympathy with the French Revolution, he came to America, in 1793, and settled at Northumberland, Pa., where he practiced law. He was a friend and follower of Joseph Priestley and was Judge of the Tenth Judicial District, 1806 to 1811. He was violently opposed to the Sedition Act and was imprisoned for libelling President John Adams. Thomas Jefferson, induced him to accept the professorship of natural science and law in the University of Virginia. He served as professor of chemistry in Dickinson College, and the University of Pennsylvania; and in 1820, became president of South Carolina College. It was he, who, in violent opposition to the protective tariff, first formulated, the doctrine of nullification and secession and taught it to the people of South Carolina, thus preceding John C. Calhoun and Jefferson Davis.

There have been numerous decisions of the courts, interpreting the Act of 1799, and applying it as the various situations arose.

The case of Carkhuff vs. Anderson, decided by the Supreme Court in 1810 (3 Binney 3), held that a judgment, being a lien on an equitable interest in land, bound the interest of a Connecticut settler within the Seventeen Townships, entitled under the Act of 1799 to obtain a patent, although he subsequently conveyed his right and the purchaser obtained the patent. It will be observed that the Act was passed April 14, 1799, and the judgment, in this case, obtained September 5, 1799; and that Chief Justice Tilghman expressly held, that the pretensions of Connecticut, having been declared unfounded, both by the Courts of the United States and Pennsylvania, and reprobated by Acts of Assembly, the interest of the defendant in the judgment, to the land bound, was a right of preemption under the Act of 1799; and this right constituted such an equitable interest as would be bound by the lien of the judgment. Justice Brackenridge, who always leaned towards the Yankees, expressed this dictum in his opinion "The appearance of right, which the Susquehanna Company had to advance a claim, is in my mind, in considering the case before me. I do not view them in the light of trespassers, with full knowledge of their want of title. Before the Decree of Trenton, the most intelligent and the best informed, might have been led to believe, that the part of the country in question was settled under a good title from the State of Connecticut. It was not so clear a case, as not to admit of a difference of construction." And he further submitted, putting his reasons, largely on moral grounds, that the decision of Judge Patterson in VanHorne vs. Dorrance was a narrow view and wrong.

This opinion of Brackenridge, however is not the law, which is very clearly and forcibly expressed by Chief Justice Tilghman in rendering the opinion of the Supreme Court in the case of

Enslin vs. Bowman decided in 1814 and reported in 6 Binney page 462, and the case of Daily vs. Avery reported in 4 S and R page 281. In the former case he said "The Confirming Act was repealed in terms of strong reprobation by the Act of 1st of April, 1790, by which it was declared, that the repealed act was unconstitutional and of the most dangerous consequences. The opinion, thus expressed of its unconstitutionality was confirmed by the Circuit Court of the United States in the case of VanHorne vs. Dorrance. It is unnecessary to enter now into the constitutional question, because the Commissioners under the Confirming Law were interrupted, before they had completed any business, and the law itself was annulled by the same authority from which it derived its existence." He held that under the act, unless the Pennsylvania claimant released, the Commissioners had no power to grant a certificate in favor of a Connecticut claimant; and that while the Act of April 1802 authorized the Commissioners to certify, not merely such parts of a tract as shall be released by a Pennsylvania claimant, but the whole tract claimed by a Connecticut settler, whether released by the Pennsylvania claimant or not, it did not affect the title of a Pennsylvania claimant, which accrued subsequent to the 28th of March, 1787. This on the ground, that by the Act of 1799 and the Act of April 9, 1807, only those who had acquired their rights under Pennsylvania, previous to the passage of the Confirming Act of March 28, 1787, were permitted to release and obtain compensation; and as to all those, whose titles accrued subsequently, it took away their property without reasonable compensation and violated the Constitution. He decided, that Enslin, the defendant in ejectment, who claimed under a warrant of 1792, was entitled to judgment against the plaintiff who claimed under a certificate, issued under the acts of 1799 and 1802, and who was an actual settler under Connecticut claim, before the Decree of Trenton. In this conclusion Judge Yeates concurred; and to it Judge Brackenridge acceded, but on the ground that the Connecticut claimant had made no actual settlement. The effect of this decision, was that the Confirming Act gave the Connecticut claimant, no right of title, it having been annulled before any right was vested by action of the Commissioners. It is therefore in line with the decision of Judge Patterson.

In the case of Dailey vs. Avery, both parties were Connecticut claimants. Avery claimed under Zebulon Marcy, to whom the certificate of the Commissioners and the patent were issued. Dailey maintained that neither Marcy nor any one under whom he claimed, ever settled on the land, that no settlement prior to the Decree of Trenton was made; Dailey who had occupied the land for thirty years, being the only settler. It was held that the Commissioners, having given the certificate, it was conclusive, and Dailey having also claimed before the Commissioners, was estopped from claiming, as a settler under Pennsylvania. Chief Justice Tilghman said "Neither plaintiff nor defendant have a vestige of legal right, before the Act of 4th of April 1799, because before that period, their possession was considered as tortious. Neither has any title, but from the bounty of the Commonwealth, and the legislature had a right to dispense that bounty on their own terms."

The opinion of Judge Scott who tried the case of Barney vs. Sutton, in the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas is reported in full in 3 Watts page 31. His statement of the controversy is very lucid, and the following said by him has been asserted by some of the judges; and there has been no ruling essentially at variance with it. "Previous to the decision at Trenton, the Connecticut settlers never did stand in the situation of trespassers with a full knowledge of their want of title, nor could they be considered as intruders upon the territory, or violators of the laws of Pennsylvania with a full knowledge of her right of jurisdiction; for both title and jurisdiction were in dispute between two independent governments." Judge Scott seems, however, to have overlooked the decisions and positive declarations of Chief Justice Tilghman quoted above, when he asserted the following: "If the foregoing views of the subject be correct, the conclusion follows, that the Connecticut settlers under the Susquehanna Company, within the Seventeen Townships acquired an equitable interest in the land, and that it was finally matured into a perfect and complete legal title under the provisions of the Act of 4th of April, 1799." The Supreme Court reversed the lower court, on a technical question and did not discuss the merits of the controversy, which involved the validity of an encumbrance or easement created by a Connecticut claimant before the Act of 1799.

In Satterlee vs. Matthewson (13 S and R 133) decided in 1825, Chief Justice Tilghman again said "It is very clear that one who entered on land in Pennsylvania, under a title derived from the State of Connecticut acquired no right in law or equity. What is called an improvement or settlement right, arises from an implied contract between the settler and the Commonwealth, that the settler should have the right of preemption, in consideration of the benefit rendered to the public by his improvement. But a settler, under Connecticut, could not pretend, to an implied contract with the Commonwealth, because he set up a title in direct opposition to the Commonwealth. From the time of the Decree of Trenton, the Courts of Pennsylvania must consider the title of Connecticut, as of no validity either in law or equity, except as it may have been confirmed by our acts of Assembly."

The second case of Satterlee vs. Matthewson (16 S and R 169) decided in 1827, in an opinion written by Judge Huston, while showing strong sympathy for the Yankee claims, overrules no law, theretofore laid down by the Supreme Court, and a disability having been removed by the legislature since the decision of the former case, the result in this case was the reverse of that in the former.

And finally Chief Justice Gibson in the case of Bird vs. Snyder (8 Watts 442) decided in 1839, intimated that the Act of 1799 and its supplements were passed, not to extinguish but confirm the Connecticut title within a particular district.

In the heat of the day, when the law was laid down, there were ugly intimations, that Tilghman and Yeates and Duncan, the judges who made it, were more influenced by the enormous land holdings of the Francis and Tilghman families and other great Philadelphia estates, than by the logic of the situation. The judges, Brackenridge, Huston, and Gibson, who had no connection with the great landed interests, certainly displayed a more liberal tendency, and a decided leaning and sympathy with the Yankee claims. However much or little, human nature may have played its part in the determination of the law; at this late day, remote from the strife and struggle, the better opinion would seem to be, that Chief Justice Tilghman was logically and legally right.

A resume of the situation would indicate; that by the grants and charters of the English Kings, the territory belonged to Connecticut; that it was settled by her people, who were the first to extinguish the Indian title; that from 1774 to 1782 the Colony and State of Connecticut exercised the sovereignty of government; and that on logical and legal grounds, the judgment at Trenton should have been in her favor. It would further indicate, that the settlers by their occupancy and settlement of the territory, if unopposed by the Colony of Connecticut, had the moral and legal right to institute a government and establish a commonwealth, whose independence would have been determined by the defeat of Plunket in the Battle of Rampart Rocks. That had they created their state, and Connecticut relinquished its claim, which undoubtedly would have been done, the Confederation would have had no jurisdiction to establish the Court of Trenton; and the only recourse of Pennsylvania would have been to the arbitrament of arms, to which the public opinion of the time would not have acceded. That having solicited and accepted the government of Connecticut, they came within the jurisdiction of the Confederation, and consequently were bound by the adjudication of Trenton, which decided the jurisdiction and right of preemption to be in Pennsylvania. It would therefore inevitably follow, that as Tilghman said, from the time of the Decree of Trenton, the Courts of Pennsylvania must consider the titles under Connecticut as of no validity either in law or equity. The only reliance of the settlers was in the bounty of the Commonwealth, which was ultimately graciously and considerately extended.

CHAPTER XII.

1787—1812

DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP

Erection of Permanent Buildings—Drawing of the Fourth Division and Settlement of the Territory Over the Mountain—Erection of the Pennsylvania Township of Kingston—Township Roads Laid—Population and Industries in 1810—The Proprietor's Book and Division of Public Lands—Division of the Township into School Districts in 1805—Erection of Forty Fort Meeting-house and Early Ministers.

The collapse of the Fourteenth Commonwealth, the promised settlement of the disputed titles, and the institution of strong and ordered government in the County of Luzerne, was followed by a quarter of a century of peace and prosperity, undisturbed by the grim necessities of war. During this period, the growth of the community known as Kingston, was consonant with the development of American social life. Prior to the advent of peace in this troubled region, little material progress had been made. In the valley, the land was largely cleared, and all was fully occupied, but this condition also prevailed before the Revolution and the Battle of Wyoming. The homes of logs were crudely and quickly built, some of them the fourth and fifth replacement on the same foundations, following their successive destructions, either by the Indians or the Pennamites.

But now, that possession of the fertile land was practically assured, the Yankee farmers yearned for the solid comforts of their old New England homes, and began to rear those square, hewn timbered and clapboarded farm houses, the type of which still exist in the countryside of the East. The then, ample water power of Toby's and Abraham's Creeks drove the old fashioned saw mills (described in a previous chapter) and turned out the lumber necessary for house construction. At its best, one of these crude mills could saw, running from daylight to dark, fifteen hundred to two thousand feet of rough lumber; but numerous mills were soon erected and the increasing demand was fully met. This industry began at Hartsouff's Hollow (later known as Mill Hollow and now Luzerne), named after Zachariah Hartsouff the old distiller of Revolutionary days, who purchased and enlarged the Swift and Sutton mills on Toby's Creek.

An ample supply of the finest white pine and hemlock was easily obtained, upon and over the Kingston Mountain, and it is safe to say, that by 1800, the log cabins had mainly been supplanted by homes of frame construction, many of them fine houses, of the type of the Lord Butler house recently destroyed. Lime for plaster was easily obtained in the upper part of Columbia County, and most of the other materials were produced at home, with the exception of the window glass, which was bought in Philadelphia, and was mainly of English make.

The construction of a house was a very different affair then than now, and the thrifty Kingston farmer who desired to build himself a mansion house, one hundred and forty years ago went about it differently than the modern home builder, who now consults a banker and arranges for a mortgage loan. The farmer, during the winter months, went into his own woods and with his own hands cut down great trees of oak, hemlock and pine. The oak and hemlock logs were hauled in the winter time when the sleighing was good to the site of his intended home, and there the farmer himself, sometimes assisted by a neighboring carpenter, hewed from them, with an instrument called an adz, the frame of his house. The white pine logs were drawn to the saw mill, and there sawed into rough lumber. Perhaps, the next year afterwards, when this lumber had been properly seasoned, he began the erection of his house. The foundations were of course laid of stone, which was readily obtained at the foot of the mountain on his own farm; and there was the best of sand in abundance at the bank of the river. The only materials, which he had to buy were the lime, the nails, the window glass and a few odds and ends. A carpenter was hired, perhaps for ninety cents a day, and he and his assistant began their work not by first framing the building, but by dressing the lumber. There were no planing mills then, and the carpenter ripped and planed by hand usually in the farmer's barn, all the siding, flooring and finishing lumber. In addition, he made the window sash and doors, and the panelling, for all the best houses contained much of it. But, the highest perfection, of his art, was the wonderfully curved stairway, with a rail usually made of cherry and beautifully wrought and carved by hand. It took him, perhaps, a year or more to complete his task, and he was usually paid in flour, and bacon, flax and wool, a cask of whiskey and perhaps a little silver money. The roof was covered with shingles made by old men, who could do little else, but sit on a shaving horse (a contrivance made of a split log, with three legs, and containing a sort of vice by which the shingle was held by the foot) and patiently from daylight to dark, with a shaving knife, shave out the shingles. These, when well laid might last half a century. The nails were hand wrought and the winter before he began his house, the farmer would go to a blacksmith and engage them. Perhaps he went to Philip Jackson, whose smithy shop, stood in 1800, a little above old Forty Fort. The nails were hammered out, on the anvil, of soft iron, usually procured from the old forge on the Lackawanna, and when properly tempered were much more durable, than those now made by modern methods. Likewise, the blacksmith made the hinges and latches for the doors, which were secured by wooden buttons. Sometimes, a wealthy farmer sent to Philadelphia, for a front door lock with brass knob and knocker. Because of the difficulty with which nails were made, they were sparingly used, and then only to fasten the siding, the flooring and trim of the interior. The frame of the building, the window sash and the doors were mortised and dovetailed together and secured with wooden pins. The great fireplaces one in every room, were at first made of stone, but later brick was used, which of course was bought. The pigments for the paint, came from Philadelphia, usually red for the exterior and whitelead for the interior, but the linseed oil, with which they were mixed was a home product. In those early days, every farmer raised a field of flax, the seed of which was taken to the nearby oil mill and ground and pressed into linseed oil. There was one of these oil mills at Hartsouff's Hollow.

The furnishings of the house were largely of home manufacture, although done at some turning mill in the neighborhood. The bedsteads were great high four post affairs, the posts elaborately turned and full of knobs, and the whole was decorated with a gorgeous, gaudy canopy. There were no springs nor mattresses in those days, but rope supported the bedding, the cords running both ways in a wide web, and drawn taut by wooden rollers at the foot and side of the bed. On this web of rope was placed a linen tick, filled with straw, on which was another tick filled with the softest feathers. The counterpanes, woven by the women of the household, were of beautiful design, the patterns having been brought by their ancestors, from England and Scotland, long ago. These splendid patterns were entirely lost to the world, until recently, when it was discovered, that they were still preserved by some of the mountain women of the South, and they are now being used by manufacturers. When completely furnished and decorated, these beds were imposing and gorgeous affairs, and so high that little folks obtained access only in the same way as to the upper berth of a modern Pullman. Some of the bureaus, chests and side boards made by the local cabinet maker were splendid specimens of fine workmanship. There was little silver, even in the best of homes, the spoons and most of the plate were made of pewter, and the knives and forks were made of iron, the finest ones with bone handles.

The great loom was a principal article of furniture and on it, were woven the woolen cloth for the winter garments and the linen for the summer clothing. The accoutrements of this great home industry were the large spinning wheel for wool, and the small wheel for flax, together with the reels upon which the skeins of yarn were made, the swifts from which the skeins were wound on the spools, and the warping bars. In very early times, there were no carding mills and the wool was carded by hand, the instruments used, being hand cards or squares of wood, filled with sharp wire; and by the manipulation of which the fleece of wool was carded.

The shad, which came up the Susquehanna in the spring, were one of the chief sources of food supply and these fine fish were caught in great nets in vast numbers. They were preserved for winter use, by being either salted and smoked or pickled in brine. About the only articles purchased were tea, coffee, sugar, molasses, powder, lead, calico, gingham, glass, pins, needles, pewter ware and crockery. The home raised meat supply of beef, mutton, and pork was considerably increased by the abundant game in the wild region over the mountain.

Until some years after the Revolution, this large region extending back from the Kingston mountain was unsettled, and only here and there occupied by a daring hunter, or in the early spring by some of the settlers who went back into the maple woods and built sugar camps. Maple sugar was then largely used in the place of cane sugar which was too expensive for the ordinary person to use very liberally.

The passage of the Confirming Act and the organization of the county wrought a change in this back mountain country, which was not allotted until 1787. According to the testimony of Lawrence Myers*, given in the settlement of the disputed line of Kingston, this or the Fourth Division was drawn by the proprietors on July 12, 1787, and was soon thereafter settled.

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*Lawrence Myers was a dominant figure, not only in Kingston Township, but in the County of Luzerne. He was born in Germany in 1754 and in 1760 came with his parents to Frederick County, Maryland. He was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary Army and first came to Wyoming Valley with the Sullivan expedition. He was discharged from the army in 1780 and on January 2, 1782 married Sarah, daughter of Captain Obadiah Gore, thereby becoming connected with one of the most influential families. Mr. Myers purchased lot No. 3, Third Division from Amos Draper by two deeds, dated September 26, 1787, and May 18, 1789; and upon this land, he lived near the site of Boyd's store at Kingston Corners. He purchased lot No. 5, but exchanged it with the Proprietors of Kingston, December 18, 1790 for lot No. 4. This rich plantation known as "Myers Delight" was the focus of business and political activity in Kingston Township, during the life of Lawrence Myers. For a time, he kept a tavern and a store and he may have been the first regular merchant in Kingston Township. He was Justice of the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County in 1790, and Justice of the Peace for many years; and also served as major of the local militia. In the fall of 1800 the Luzerne County Commissioners began the erection of the second Court House, (the first was built of logs), and Lawrence Myers, who was one of the Commissioners, planned it, following the design of the one at Frederick, Maryland, his former home. Mr. Myers died at his home at Kingston Corners, November 26, 1810. He left no descendants and his large estate was inherited by his brothers, Philip and Michael Myers.

His widow married April 15, 1811, the noted preacher, Benjamin Bidlack. This famous character was born in Windham County, Connecticut according to some authorities on February 25, 1759, according to others in 1762. But, a mere boy, he stood in the ordered ranks of the Continental Army near the historic elm at Cambridge when George Washington assumed command. His term of enlistment, having expired, he was here for a brief period in 1777 and then reenlisted in Captain Worley's Company of Artillery at Carlisle, which was attached to Washington's Army; so that it may be said of him, that he followed all the strange vicissitudes of the Continental Army from its beginning to its end. For fourteen days, he was in the entrenchments and helped to fire the guns at the siege of Yorktown; and then, he witnessed the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He was present, when the officers met at Newburgh, to discuss the disbandment of the army and to consider the famous Armstrong letters composed by the celebrated Colonel Armstrong, later of hated Pennamite memory. More than six feet tall and of fine physique, Bidlack possessed a deep bass voice, and was one of the best singers in the army. Like many attractive men, he was addicted to drink and in his younger days was a much dissipated man. His early manhood was replete with strange adventures, and into the eighty-seven years of his life were crowded more of romance and strange adventure than usually falls to the lot of man. After the Revolution and during the Pennamite Wars, he was confined in the jail at Sunbury. During the summer evenings, his fine singing attracted to the jail a large company, who liberally supplied him with drink. The more he drank, the more abandoned

For some time after the organization of Luzerne County, its civil divisions were not clearly defined. The Seventeen Townships functioned to some extent through Proprietors' meetings, but most of the records of their proceedings until 1799 seem to be lost. There were no municipal or Pennsylvania townships for the first three years. Until the capture of Gideon Dudley late in 1788, the region was in a state of war, and at the first meetings of the County Court, little business was transacted. There seems to have been a division of the county into districts in 1787, and Samuel Finch of Kingston was appointed constable of the Second District. The legislature, on September 7, 1789, divided Luzerne County into five election districts and it was provided that "Beginning from a point on the west side of the Susquehanna river opposite the Falling Spring, down the said river to Hunlock's Creek, thence up said creek to the head thereof, thence west to the west line of the county, thence northerly on said line to the Tunkhannock district, thence westerly on the line of Tunkhannock district to the place of beginning shall be an election district by the name of Kingstown District and the freemen thereof shall meet at the house of Lawrence Myers and hold their elections."

At the March Sessions of the Court in 1788, the county was divided into five poor districts. The Third District, which included Kingston extended on the west side of the river from Hunlock's Creek to a west line from Buttermilk Falls and the overseers appointed for this district were Hezekiah Roberts and John Hageman.

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became his singing and the more highly pleased was his convivial audience. It was rare entertainment in that crude frontier community, and the spectators persuaded the sheriff to let him come out, into the yard in front of the prison, so that they might see him act as well as hear him sing. Nightly they regaled him with strong drink, and while he mooted his escape, he disarmed the caution of his jailers by his song and story. One night, when the moon was rather dim and Bidlack had drunk more freely than usual, he sang a new song of a drunken man, which ran something like this:

"He that sings and runs away
May live to sing another day
But he that doth in jail remain
May never sing at home again."

And when he came to the chorus "Here goes the old swaggering man," he fumbled his cane and staggered and reeled, across the yard, to the six foot rail fence, which he leaped with the agility of a sober man and fled like a deer into the security of the forest. It was a common saying, that Ben Bidlack was the only man who ever sang himself out of jail. But, if he sang himself from prison, he sang himself into a far greater renown. For, at the Methodist meetings held by Anning Owen, the inspiration of his splendid singing led him to realize that his rare gifts of voice and manner were created for a nobler purpose, than to sing the risque ballads of the camp, and Benjamin Bidlack became one of the most eloquent preachers of the Methodist faith. He labored with uncommon zeal and a rare success, and the converts of "Father Bidlack" as he was called were numerous and scattered far and wide through the precincts of the old Genesee Conference. The Rev. Benjamin Bidlack lived on the Westerly side of Wyoming Avenue, just below the library, and there he died November 27, 1845. His son the Hon. Benjamin Alden Bidlack was a distinguished member of Congress and a diplomat of note.

At the June Sessions of 1788, John Dorrance and Benjamin Smith were appointed supervisors of highways for Kingston and at the same sessions of the court the county was divided into nine districts for the purpose of electing justices of the peace. The Eighth District comprised the old Townships of Kingston and Plymouth. In March, 1789, Abel Peirce and John Hageman were appointed overseers of the poor, and John Dorrance and Benjamin Smith supervisors of highways. The above enumeration comprehends the government of Kingston for the first three years of the county's history, save the function exercised by the proprietors in their town meetings, which was probably the real governing power.

Why the division of the county into townships, was not made at the beginning is not apparent, but it is to be presumed, that the Yankees unused to Pennsylvania institutions stubbornly persisted in the town meeting and New England method of government. But this anomaly could not long prevail. Pennsylvania law had nothing to do with and did not recognize proprietors and town meetings. Its system provided a more orderly and efficient local government, and one better adapted to a population, less intelligent than that of New England. At the March Sessions, 1790, of the Luzerne County Court of Quarter Sessions, this brief order was made: "It is ordered by the Justices that the County be divided into eleven townships: Tioga, Wyalusing, Tunkhannock, Lackawanik, Wilkes-Barre, Hanover, Newport, Exeter, Kingston, Plymouth and Salem." The boundaries of Kingston were defined as follows: "Bounded Southeasterly on the River Susquehanna, Northeasterly by Exeter Township, the former boundary line between Kingston and Exeter and the continuation thereof; Northwesterly by the County line and Southerly by Plymouth Township according to the former boundary line between Kingston and Plymouth and the continuation thereof." It will be observed that the territory comprehended in the new Kingston (Pennsylvania township) extended northwesterly to the county line, and was much greater than the original township, five miles square, laid out by the Susquehanna Company. Only eleven townships were erected to include and embrace a territory much larger than that comprised in the original Seventeen Townships.

It is a singular situation, but nevertheless true, that side by side and coterminous with, or within the other, two organizations known as Kingston Township have continued to function from 1790 to the present time, the one a municipal subdivision of Pennsylvania, the other the Proprietor's government (now recognized by Pennsylvania), exercising powers only within the prescribed limits of the original township laid out by the Susquehanna Company, and later known as the Certified Township of Kingston. This condition is to some extent true of the other sixteen townships, but with one exception, Salem, it is believed, Kingston is the only one, that preserves its ancient rights and still remains, in name and fact the Certified Township of Kingston.

The most enduring institutions of human government are its highways. Roads or passage ways seem to be embedded in the nature of living things. Animals have their runways, and the paths of the savage people have been followed by civilized man with his highways, canals and railroads. It is significant therefore, that the court, even before it formed the township, laid out the roads of Kingston. At the June Sessions of 1788, Benjamin Carpenter, Abel Peirce, Lawrence Myers, Benjamin Smith, and John Dorrance were appointed to lay out the roads in the Town of Kingston. At the following September Sessions, they reported and laid the following roads: Road Number 1 (the present Northampton Street), beginning at the ferry and running along the Plymouth Township line to the house of Thomas Drake. This house stood nearly opposite the present Welsh Presbyterian Church and on the Kingston side, and the road was laid two rods wide, one on the Plymouth side and one on the Kingston side.

Road Number 2: Began at the residence of Thomas Drake and ran a little southeast of the line of the present Main Street to a point on the avenue south of Kingston Corners, and thence followed the meadow lot road between Asa Gore and Winchester Matthewson to the bank of the creek, being nearly parallel with the line of the present Market Street from the Corners to the first pond hole, and on the present line of I. A. Carle; then it ran along the bank dividing the uplands from the flats to the northeast side of Abigail Harris' lot in what is now Forty Fort;

and thence continued through the Town Plot, on the line of the present River Street, to the upper corner of the Town Plot, which was beyond Wyoming Avenue, and near the present Lackawanna Railroad tracks. This road was two rods wide to River Street, and then six rods wide to its terminus.

Road Number 3: Ran through the Town Plot, between lots Numbers 14 and 15, a distance of one hundred and six rods to the Main road (Wyoming Avenue) and was four rods wide.

Road No. 4 (now Wyoming Avenue): "One road beginning at corner of Belding's lot on line of division between Kingston and Plymouth; thence on head of Meadow lots North 42 degrees East 1½ miles and 20 rods to upper corner of Meadow lot No. 17; thence North 36 degrees East ½ of a mile to lower corner of Peleg Comstock's Meadow lot No. 16; thence North 33¼ degrees 296 rods to bridge of Abraham's Creek at Tuttle mill; thence North 70¼ degrees East 112 rods to lower corner of Benjamin Smith's Meadow lot No. 7; thence North 73½ degrees East to the upper corner of Richard Brockway's lot No. 6; thence North 45 degrees 51 rods to the lower corner of Ira Stevens' Meadow lot No. 4; thence North 48 degrees East 1 mile and 34 rods to Exeter line."

Road Number 5 (the present Main Street Edwardsville) began at the house of Thomas Drake and thence ran north on the line between Kingston and Plymouth to the back township line, and was laid two rods wide, one rod on each side of the township line.

At the December Sessions 1791, a road was laid beginning on the Main road at the corner of Dr. Bigelow's lot and thence running Easterly between lots of Dr. Bigelow and John Gore to the road dividing Kingston flats from the uplands, Road Number 2. It was two rods wide and almost identical with Church Street, Kingston.

At August Sessions 1792, a road was laid from James Atherton's house on the flats, a distance of about 1200 feet to intersect the road running from Lawrence Myers to Plymouth (Road No. 2), near the house of Josiah Ives. This was nearly on line of the present Covert Street, Kingston.

At January Sessions, 1794, a road was laid from the Commissioner's bridge across Toby's Creek in the upper part of present Luzerne Borough to the Exeter line. This is the back road through the present Swoyerville and West Wyoming Boroughs.

At the same court, the present Eighth Street, Wyoming was laid, running from the main road between lots 34 and 35, two rods wide to the back road.

On the same day, a road was laid beginning at the back road in the middle of lot Number 34 and following the course of Abraham's Creek over the mountain to the lands of N. Denison and S. Carver, being practically on the line of the present road to Orange.

At April Sessions, 1796, a road was laid "Beginning at a white oak sapling in line of road leading from Kingston up the river and near a little hill east of the house of Stephen Harding" (This was in Exeter near the vicinity of the present Coray's Glen), thence by various courses and distances therein named some 700 or 800 rods to the bridge over Abraham's Creek, a little above Gilbert Carpenter's saw mill, which is to be considered the western end of said road." This point was a little below the present Saxe's store above West Wyoming.

At the same court a road was laid "Beginning at the little fork of the road above Gilbert Carpenter's saw mill, in the north line of the road, that leads to Samuel Carver's" and thence by the various courses and distances named to Sutton's Creek and thence to the river road near the Three Islands.

At the January Sessions of 1797, the court laid a road, "beginning at a point on the north line of the road near the house of Stephen Hollister, near Zachariah Hartsouff's." This point was near the present bridge over Main street at Luzerne, and the road followed the approximate courses and distances of the present Bunker Hill road and thence over Harris' Hill to the back line of Kingston and "thence by that line to the road from Benjamin Carpenters to the Three Islands, about four rods from David Shales house." This road was seven miles long.

A road was laid at November Sessions, 1802, from a point on the river and thence between lands of John Gore to Hartsouff's mills and thence up the west branch of Toby's Creek. This was what was known as the mill road; and that portion of it which is now Bennett Street had been laid many years before by the Proprietors, the remainder being the road from Luzerne to Trucksville and Dallas.

At November Sessions, 1806, a road was laid one mile and seventy one perches long described as follows: "From Fuller and Baldwin's mill to intersect the road that was laid out from Meshoppen to Wilkes-Barre at or near William Truck's grist mill." The Court at the November Sessions, 1810, laid a road: "Beginning at line between Kingston and Plymouth and thence to the road near Peter Babb's still house about 60 perches Southeast of Peter Babb's mill." This was nearly on the line of the road from Luzerne through the present Courtdale.

The elections in the district composed of Kingston, Plymouth and Bedford were held from 1789 to 1806 at the house of Lawrence Myers at Kingston Corners.

The people of Kingston, Plymouth and Bedford had a great celebration of the Fourth of July, in 1810, at Harvey's Lake. The people assembled at Kingston Corners and preceded by the Kingston Matross Artillery Company with their brass field piece marched to the lake. In the language of that day "Three fine bucks and a sufficiency of domestic manufactured spirits constituted the repast." Colonel George P. Ransom was president, and it was the grandest and most glorious celebration the west side of the river had ever known.

In 1810, the Kingston prices current were: wheat 11s, 3d; rye 5s; corn 4s, 6d; oats 2s, 9d; butter 1s, 3d per pound; cheese 12 cents per pound; lard 9 cents per pound.

There were that year 831 inhabitants in Kingston Township; 25 looms upon which were woven 6135 yards of linen cloth and 1827 yards of woolen cloth; and in the township were 182 horses, 484 cattle and 600 sheep; and 160 pounds of maple sugar were made.

At the January Sessions 1812, a road was laid from James Landon's saw mill (formerly the saw mill of Gilbert Carpenter) to the saw mill of William Trucks then owned by Joseph Swetland and now Trucksville. This is the present road from Trucksville to Saxe's store.

The Proprietors Book of Kingston begins in 1799, and while by references made elsewhere, we know that their meetings were frequently and regularly held, there is no record extant of their proceedings prior to September 14, 1799, when the first minutes are entered in this very valuable and ancient book. On that day they met at the tavern of Philip Myers at Forty Fort, and organized by electing Colonel Denison, moderator.

In accordance with the terms of the donation made in 1768 by the Susquehanna Company, it was voted to divide certain of the public lands as follows: (1) For the public use of a gospel ministrie; (2) for the first settling minister of the gospel; and (3) for support of schools. The lands, that day divided were those "joining the river above the three lots belonging to the heirs of Obadiah Gore and running up the road towards the Forty house, beginning at Gore's lot No. 1, the next No. 2, and the other division No. 3, they being for house lots as aforementioned." Benjamin Dorrance was appointed to make the drawing, and the minister drawed lot No. 2; the school lot No. 3; and the ministrie lot No. 1.

At the next meeting held November 21, 1799 Lawrence Myers was moderator and it was decided to lease the public lands for 999 years. At a meeting held April 3, 1801, Daniel Hoyt was moderator and it was "voted that the committee inclose the public burying ground and have the same grubbed out" (this is now a part of Forty Fort cemetery).

In view, that the Commissioners appointed under the Act of 1799 were about to examine the Connecticut titles, at a meeting held September 2, 1801, it was "Voted that a committee be appointed to make a new draft of the town agreeable to the original plan and to collect all papers; also that the committee ascertain the persons admitted at the expiration of five years stipulated by the Susquehanna Company and enter their names or lots in a book to be kept with the records of said town. And at a meeting held at the tavern of Philip Jackson at Forty Fort, the 18th of the same month, Benjamin Carpenter and Lord Butler* were appointed a committee "to examine the records of Westmoreland and trace the claims to the present owners and make out a list of owners from the first settlement." On May 15, 1802, Benjamin Smith, Benjamin Carpenter and Daniel Hoyt were appointed a committee, "to assist the State Surveyors to ascertain the old boundaries and lines of said town and the line at the head of every tier of lots in said town as run by Mr. Woodworth." And at a meeting held the succeeding May 31st, it was "Voted that the lines and courses as run and marked by Jonathan Woodworth is by this meeting established without a dissenting vote."

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*LORD BUTLER, was the son of Zebulon Butler, military leader of the Wyoming Settlement, and commander of the American forces in the Battle of Wyoming. Zebulon Butler was born at Chebacco, Ipswich Massachusetts in 1730. In 1732, his father John Butler removed to Lyme, Connecticut, where in 1755, Zebulon Butler enlisted in the Colonial Service and served during the French and Indian War, as ensign, lieutenant, and captain of Connecticut troops. He participated in the campaign, in and about Lake George, and in 1762, took part in the expedition against Havana. In 1760, he married Anne Lord of Lyme, and was a farmer in that town, and part owner of a sloop engaged in the West India trade. In 1769, he came to Wyoming, and removed his family here in 1772, residing thereafter on River Street, Wilkes-Barre. In May, 1775, he was commissioned Colonel of the 24th Regiment, Connecticut

The foregoing minutes prove that Jonathan Woodworth made the survey, upon which the certified map of Kingston was based, and that he followed the original survey made by David Meade in 1770.

It is apparent, upon perusal of the minutes of a meeting held April 3, 1804, that the Proprietors in their meetings and through their trustees at this time, not only looked after the public land, the schools, the church, and burying ground but performed generally the functions of local government for we find the following entry: "There was taken into consideration

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(Westmoreland) Militia. October 11, 1776, he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel in the Continental Army, and attached to the 3d Regiment, Connecticut Line. November 15, 1778, he was appointed Colonel of the 2nd Connecticut Regiment, and on February 22, 1781 was made Colonel of the 4th Connecticut Regiment. Colonel Butler was an extensive owner of land in Kingston Township. He died July 28, 1795. Lord Butler eldest child of Zebulon Butler and his wife, Anne Lord, was born at Lyme Connecticut, December 11, 1761, and died March 3, 1824. He was acting Deputy Quartermaster General of the Continental forces stationed here in 1779, and participated in the Battle of Locust Hill in 1784. In 1786, he married Mary, daughter of Abel Peirce of Kingston, born October 1763, died October 28, 1834, and from that time until about 1790 he lived on his farm in Kingston Township and erected the mansion house a little north of Peirce Street, which was only recently destroyed by fire. Lord Butler was the first sheriff of Luzerne County, Brigadier General of Pennsylvania Militia, member of Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, and succeeded Timothy Pickering as Prothonotary, Clerk of the Courts, Register and Recorder of Luzerne County. He was the first postmaster of Wilkes-Barre and served in the Legislature. He died March 3, 1824, and his children were: I. Louisa, born February 23, 1787, died December 17, 1787; II. Peirce, born January 27, 1789, died March 30, 1848, married February 2, 1818, Temperance, daughter of Arnold Colt, born December 27, 1790, died May 10, 1863. Their home was in Kingston Township and their children were: Houghton Seymour, born December 15, 1818, died August 22, 1870, married Amanda Meyer; 2. Mary Lucinda born January 13, 1822, died November 21, 1897, married Elijah W. Reynolds; 3. James Montgomery, born February 9, 1826, died December 9, 1861, married March 18, 1852, Martha Lazarus, born September 28, 1832, and their children were: Blanche, born April 27, 1853, died September 19, 1869; Peirce, born March 31, 1855; George H., born September 2, 1857, member of Luzerne County Bar, married May 8, 1890, Gertrude Taylor Stoddard; John Lord, born March 18, 1860, died September 13, 1880; James Montgomery, born May 23, 1862; 4. Peirce Jr., born October 13, 1832, married Cathrine A Kelley, January 17, 1855; III. Houghton, born November 8, 1791, died October 3, 1867; IV. Sylvina Peirce, born March 5, 1794, died March 28, 1824, married Garrick Mallery, Esq.; V. John Lord, born February 9, 1796, married Cornelia Richards and they were the parents of Sarah Richards Butler, who married Judge Stanley Woodward; VI. Chester Peirce, born March 21, 1798, died October 5, 1850, married Mrs. Sarah Hollenback Cist, and had a son George Hollenback Butler. Chester Butler was a member of the Thirtieth and Thirty-first Congresses; VII. Ruth Ann, born June 11, 1801, died July 31, 1879, married Judge John N. Conyngham; VIII. Zebulon, born September 27, 1803, died December 23, 1860; IX. Lord Nelson, born October 18, 1805, died November 27, 1861, married February, 1832, Abi W. Slocum; X. Phebe Haight, born January 16, 1811, died July, 1879, married Dr. Alexander C. Donaldson.

a demand made by Philip Myers for building a certain bridge at or near Tuttle's mill. It was voted that if Philip Myers will assign to the town a judgment or the remainder of the judgment he has against Lawrence Myers and William Slocum as supervisors for the years 1791 and 1792, that the township will pay him the remainder of the debt due him for building the bridge.

On April 13, 1805, it was decided that the interest of the public money should be appropriated to the support of the public schools, according to the number of scholars in each district between the ages of four and fifteen years. The township had some time previously, been divided into four school districts and their boundaries were determined at this meeting as follows: "The first district to begin at the line between Exeter and Kingston and to run as far Southerly as to include Belding Swetland (now the Pettebone place); the second district to begin at said Swetlands and run as far southerly as to include Forty Fort house; the third district to begin at Forty Fort house and run to the Plymouth line; the fourth district to include all on the west side of the mountain." It was required that in the first, second, and third districts nine months school should be maintained; and that the fourth district should keep and support a good school as long as their proportion of the public money will pay the hire of a school master.

It is highly creditable to those Kingston farmers, that they provided for a nine months term of school, nearly thirty years before the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania extended its bounty to its children, by the establishment of the common school system in 1834.

At a meeting held April 3d, 1807, it was "Voted that all the common or public land below the grave yard and adjoining lands of Philip Jackson and E. Shoemaker be appropriated for building a meeting-house and be left open."

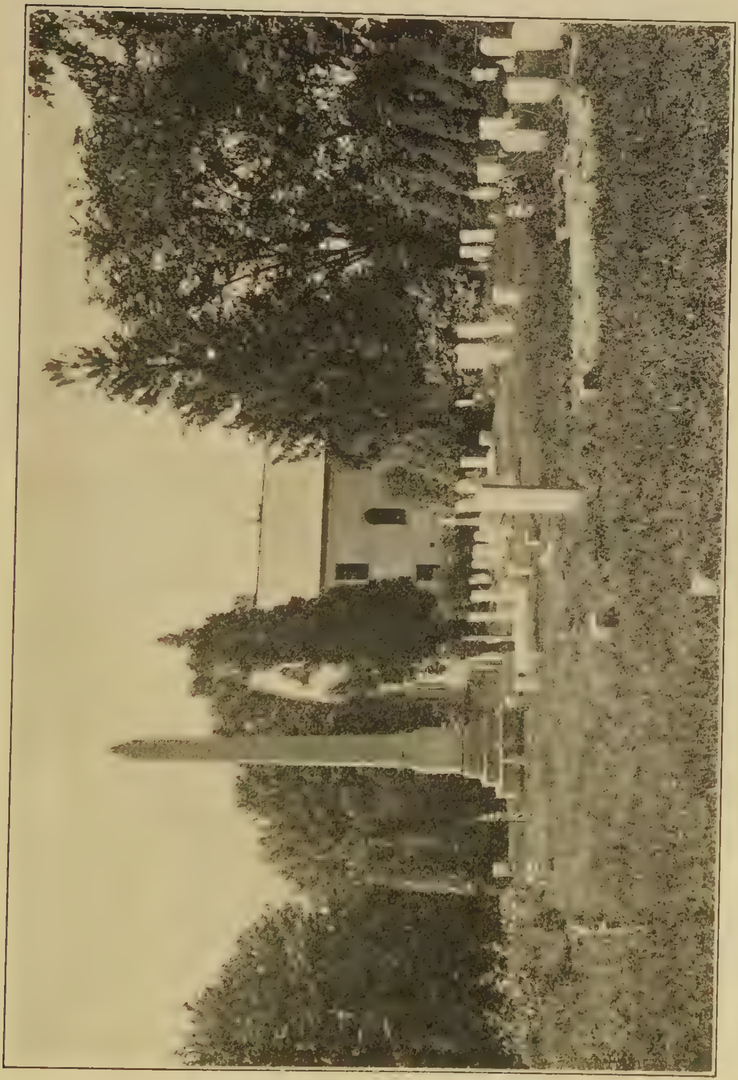
This is the site, upon which stands old Forty Fort Meeting-house, the oldest and the first church edifice built and completed in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

In 1770, the Proprietors of Kingston Township set apart a square acre of land in the Town Plot, lying north and east, of the present Meeting-house as a burying ground. This is the oldest burial place, now in use in the Wyoming Valley and Northern Pennsylvania. It had been used for thirty years and in it were interred a considerable number, when its neglected appearance spurred the Proprietors to action in November, 1799, and they determined to "grub out" the briars and brush, which had overgrown the graves, and to enclose the grounds with a fence, so as to keep our prowling cattle. But not until 1807 was any action taken toward the erection of a meeting-house. We know that religious services were frequently and regularly held, and for a time, a building within the enclosure of old Forty Fort may have afforded a place of worship. In the annals of those early days, there is frequent reference to the "Forty House" and perhaps some part of the old fort may have been converted into a public meeting place.

The erection of a church building had been commenced in Hanover about 1790, but it was never completed. In 1800, Wilkes-Barre began a church, but it was not completed until 1812. The people of Kingston Township were then nearly all, of the state church of Connecticut, Congregational and the Proprietors in 1799 had allotted two of the public lots for the minister, and the ministrie and some funds from the lease of these were probably available in 1807, for the erection of a meeting-house. The Proprietors Committee for that year were: Elijah Shoemaker, Benjamin Smith and Henry Buckingham; and Benjamin Carpenter was Moderator, Philip Myers Clerk; and Benjamin Dorrance, Treasurer.

Some preliminary work, such as obtaining subscriptions and making plans, may have been done in 1806 but it is not probable any work was commenced prior to April 3, 1807, when the Proprietors by resolution definitely fixed the site and appropriated the land. No other official record, of the erection of this interesting building, appears to exist, but from well established tradition we gather that it was enclosed during the summer of 1807, and that the interior was finished and the pews and pulpit placed during the winter of 1807-08. It was completed and first occupied about June 1, 1808.

Daniel Hoyt, Luke Swetland, Benjamin Dorrance, Lazarus Denison, and Elijah Shoemaker were of a committee charged



FORTY FORT MEETING-HOUSE AND THE FIRST BURYING GROUND BETWEEN THE TALL MONUMENT MARKING GRAVE OF COLONEL DENISON AND THE CHURCH.

with its erection. The carpenter in charge who laid out the building was Joseph Hitchcock and the pulpit and pews were made by Gideon Underwood* a skillful cabinet maker.

Forty Fort Meeting-house is the most interesting building in Northeastern Pennsylvania, and remains unchanged during the one hundred twenty-two years that it has stood. Its measurements are a little more than fifty feet in length, and forty-one feet in width. One end faces River Street and the other the grave yard, and originally there was a door at either end, but both were boarded up many years ago, probably when the two stoves were placed in the building. No other changes have been made. The main doorway faces the east and is directly opposite the pulpit. The same hand made double doors are there today. Some of the original siding near the ground, which had decayed, has been replaced but from about half way up the old wide clapboards remain. More modern shutters have been placed on the second story windows, and the building has been re-roofed several times. Otherwise it is unchanged. Facing the doorway and leading to the pulpit is the center aisle, on either side of which are six enclosed pews, the doors of which are fastened with wooden buttons. An aisle runs all the way around these center pews, and flanking the pulpit on either side and built against the northwestern wall of the church are two enclosures or pews with benches all around. There are similar enclosures built against the end walls, and running toward the east about half way, where there is an open space, into which formerly the two doors opened but now occupied by two old fashioned stoves. From these open spaces and built against the eastern wall of the building are two winding stairways leading to the gallery, which had a level floor and runs across the eastern side and both ends. There are now no benches in the gallery, but underneath it are two square enclosures on either side of the doorway. There are now three windows on the ground floor of each end and four on the sides and the same number in the second story, and each window contains twenty-four small lights. Immediately behind the pulpit is a square window with a round top. The gallery is supported by four round columns about ten inches in diameter. The upright timbers of the frame are exposed. There are the four corner timbers, four on each side and two on each end. On these exposed timbers are rude brackets upon which candles could be set. The floor boards are nearly twelve inches wide.

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*GIDEON UNDERWOOD, was a son of Israel Underwood and was born March, 1773 and died December 16, 1859. He married Sarah Brown, born February, 1780, died May 25, 1854. Their children were: Sarah Ann,born August, 1802, died May 23, 1833, married to Christopher Buskirk; William, married Margaret, daughter of Belding Swetland, born June 27, 1807, died July 18, 1896; Lyman, born 1806, died January 12, 1834; Israel, born March 13, 1808, died December 26, 1849; Jesse L., born 1813, died October 28, 1846; Caroline, born July 30, 1815 died November 4, 1850; Dr. Gideon, Jr., born December 3, 1819, died January 30, 1896.

The pulpit is built in the center of and against the north wall. It is approached by a winding stairway and is all enclosed with well wrought handmade panelling. The top of the preacher's desk stands about twelve feet above the ground floor, and back of it built against the wall, is a rude bench. At the foot of the pulpit against it is an enclosure with bench and desk facing the pews. This was originally occupied by the clerk of the congregation and probably later by the singers. None of the interior woodwork has ever been painted, although it is now dark with age. There are many old churches in America, but few others whose interior still remains unchanged.

The Rev. Ard Hoyt was pastor of the Kingston and Wilkes-Barre Congregations, when this meeting-house was erected, and during his pastorate here, he resided in Kingston Township. He was born in Danbury, Connecticut March 15, 1764, a son of Captain Comfort Hoyt, and a younger brother of Daniel Hoyt. He married September 12, 1792, Esther Booth of Southbury, Connecticut, and was ordained a Congregational minister and preached his first sermon in the Danbury church where he had been baptized. Mr. Hoyt was installed pastor of the Kingston and Wilkes-Barre Congregations in August, 1806 and continued his labors here until November 10, 1817, when he left for Brainerd, Tennessee, as a missionary among the Cherokee Indians. He died there February 18, 1828, and was widely known as "Father Hoyt." He was a large, well built man standing over six feet tall. His manner was earnest and he was the strictest sort of a Puritan. Dr. Dorrance said of him "He literally set his face, like flint against sin in any form. With him there was no compromise of duty. He was a fearless preacher of the doctrines of grace."

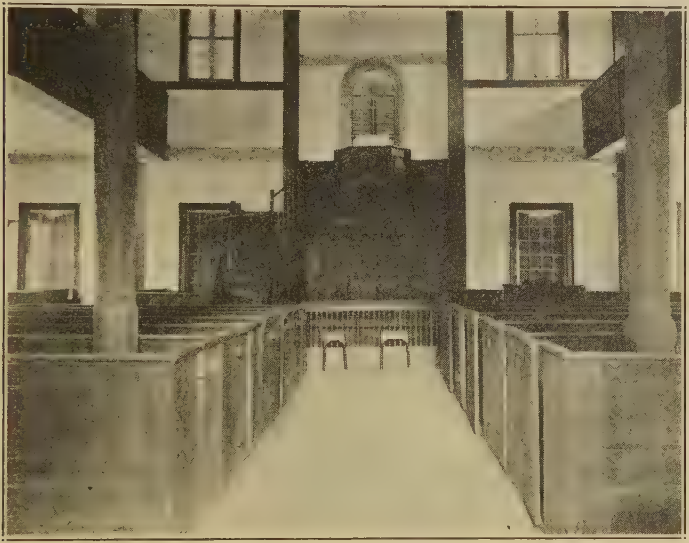
Mr. Hoyt was succeeded by the following missionaries of the church: Rev. Eleazer S. Barrows, Rev. Hutchins Taylor, Rev. D. Moulton, Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury, Rev. M. Miner York, and Rev. Mr. Wood. Of these, Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury was the best known. He was born in Coventry, Connecticut, August 30th, 1762, and graduated from Yale in 1786. Mr. Kingsbury came to Northeastern Pennsylvania, in 1809 as agent of the Connecticut Home Missionary Society, and was pastor of the Harford, Susquehanna County, Congregational Church from 1810 to 1827. But, during that time he was largely occupied in missionary labors, travelling through the wilderness of Luzerne, Bradford and Susquehanna Counties, where he organized a number of churches. He never became a Presbyterian and died at Harford, March 24th, 1842.

Rev. M. Miner York was for many years, pastor of the Congregational Church at Wyalusing, and was a zealous missionary. Mr. York was one of the first to change from the Congregational to the Presbyterian organization.

The Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve, became pastor of the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston churches, June 15, 1821 and continued until April 18, 1829. He was born at Morristown, N. J., educated at Rutgers College, and early settled in Georgia. He died at Elizabethtown, N. J. in 1841. He was assisted in the Kingston church by Rev. James Wood.

Forty Fort Meeting-house

Mr. Gildersleeve was succeeded by the Rev. Nicholas Murray, but prior to his installation, November 4th, 1829, the church had been changed from Congregational to Presbyterian. He was born in Ballynaskea, Westmeath County, Ireland, December 25, 1802 of Roman Catholic parentage. While working in the printing house of Harper Brothers in New York, he became a Methodist and later a Presbyterian. Mr. Murray graduated from Williams College, and also from Princeton Theological Seminary. He was a most remarkable man and a tireless worker. He removed to Elizabethtown, N. J. in 1833, and died there, February 4th, 1861.



INTERIOR OF FORTY FORT MEETING-HOUSE

The Rev. John Dorrance, who succeeded him, was the eldest son of Benjamin and Nancy Buckingham Dorrance and was born in Kingston Township, February 28, 1800. He graduated from the College of New Jersey in 1823 and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1826. Mr. Dorrance removed to Louisiana and became pastor of a church at Baton Rouge in 1827 and married about this time Penelope Mercer. In 1831, he became pastor of the church at Wysox in Bradford County, and continued there until August 22, 1833, when he was installed pastor of the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston churches. Dr. Dorrance was a man of more than ordinary ability, had a fine personality and was greatly beloved. He continued as pastor of the Wilkes-Barre church until April 18, 1861, when he died.

Rev. Alexander Heberton from 1832 to 1834 assisted in the Kingston church and during that time under him a church was erected at Wyoming on the corner of the Wyoming Cemetery grounds, and old Forty Fort Meeting-house was abandoned by the Wyoming congregation. About 1837, the Kingston congregation abandoned the old meeting-house and held their services in the Academy on lower Wyoming Avenue. Other Presbyterian preachers, who held occasional services in the old edifice at Forty Fort, were Rev. Charles C. Corss, and Rev. E. Hazard Snowden.

The Methodists seem to have occupied it, for services occasionally in early times. Bishop Asbury preached in the woods, adjoining it while it was being erected, July 19, 1807. Anning Owen and Elisha Bibbins preached in it; and in 1824 Rev. Benjamin Bidlack organized a class, separate from Kingston and conducted services regularly in the old meeting-house for a time. The Rev. Dr. George Peck preached his first sermon in Forty Fort church, and among other early ministers who held services in it were: Marmaduke Pearce, George Lane, Valentine Cook, Silas Comfort, and Gideon Draper. The famous Lorenzo Dow preached from the pulpit December 8, 1833. In later years, whatever services were held in the old meeting-house were conducted almost entirely by the Methodists.

CHAPTER XIII.

1812—1830

WAR OF 1812 AND DIVISION OF THE TOWNSHIP

THE KINGSTON VOLUNTEERS—GENERAL SAMUEL THOMAS—THE TRAGIC FATE OF JAMES BIRD—KINGSTON MORAL SOCIETY—THE GREAT WOLF HUNT—ERECTION OF DALLAS TOWNSHIP FROM PART OF KINGSTON—THE MARKET STREET ROAD LAID.

Some time prior to the War of 1812, a number of young men of Kingston Township had organized a battery of artillery, which they called the "Luzerne Volunteer Matross Company." In 1812 and 1813, their captain was Samuel Thomas, who was born in Connecticut and as a young man came to Kingston where he married Marcia Pettebone. He was a tanner and currier by trade and in October 1810, he formed a partnership with Joseph Tuttle and Payne Pettebone and engaged in the tannery business. In 1812 there was a dissolution of this partnership, and Mr. Thomas engaged in business for himself. In December 1820, this establishment was taken over by William Hancock and was located near the present Luzerne Station of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad. In 1817, Captain Thomas purchased land on Goose Island below Kingston Corners and built the tannery, which he sold to Ira Carle in 1838; and he then removed to Wyoming, Illinois, where he was still living in 1871. Besides serving as a captain during the War of 1812, he occupied many influential positions, and became a general of the state militia, so that in later life he was always referred to as General Thomas.

A great interest was manifested by the members of this volunteer artillery company and it was better drilled and more efficient than most of the militia organizations of those days. Its presence was much sought, at the Fourth of July and other celebrations and its usual training place was in front of the tavern (now Exchange Hotel) of Archippus Parrish, at Kingston Corners.

Hull's surrender of Detroit in August 1812, left the American frontier exposed to the attacks of the savage allies of Great Britain; and the government hurriedly organized an army under General Harrison and dispatched it to the front with the purpose of driving the British from Detroit. However, the key of the campaign was the possession of Lake Erie; and already the enemy had commenced the construction of a fleet under Captain Barclay, who had served with Nelson at Trafalgar.

HOME OF CAPTAIN SAMUEL THOMAS, LATER KNOWN AS THE CARLE HOUSE, STANDING ON CARLE STREET, KINGSTON

The American emergency was great. Free navigation of Lake Erie was essential for the movement of troops and the transportation of supplies, and upon securing it, depended the success of the Western campaign, and perhaps the safety of the Republic itself. A fleet must be constructed, an energetic commander secured, sailors and marines obtained; and materials and supplies transported from the Eastern seaboard, through hundreds of miles of wilderness to Lake Erie.

Ship carpenters were sent from Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and on February 22, 1813, Oliver Hazard Perry, a young naval captain, only twenty seven years old left Newport, Rhode Island, under urgent orders of the government to take command of the building fleet on Lake Erie. He went by sleigh to Lebanon, Connecticut, where he stopped a short time to see his father and mother, and thence drove across the hills to Albany where he met Commodore Chauncey. He spent some days with the fleet on Lake Ontario, and on March 27th, arrived at Erie.

A shipyard had already been established in a very advantageous situation at the mouth of Cascade Creek, and considerable progress had been made. The flotilla being constructed consisted of two brigs, and a number of gunboats. Green lumber cut in the neighboring forest was used, and all the supplies including the guns and ammunition were hauled one hundred and fifty miles from Pittsburg. Perry immediately realized that the workmen and ship building were in a precarious situation, being exposed to the attack of the British fleet, as soon as the ice melted on the lake. An immediate demand was made upon the Governor of Pennsylvania for protection.

The ordinary infantry, of which the state militia was largely composed, was of little service in warding off the attack of the British men of war; and the conditions demanded the presence of a battery of artillery. The Luzerne Matross Company seems to have been the most available, and about the twelfth of April, a requisition of the Governor of the Commonwealth arrived at Kingston, ordering Captain Thomas and his company to immediately proceed to Erie and defend the shipping. The call was so sudden that the full strength of the battery was not available, many of the men having gone down the river with lumber rafts or boats laden with grain; the rafting and boating business being one of the principal occupations in the early spring when the river was high.

Consequently, a little less than thirty men mustered early in the morning of the fourteenth of April 1813 in front of the tavern house of Archippus Parrish; and preceded by a band of music and a troop of horse commanded by Captain Carpenter and followed by a concourse of friends and sorrowing relatives, marched to the river. This little band of men under the command of Captain Samuel Thomas and Lieutenant Ziba Hoyt is known in history, and was known throughout the States, in a popular song of those stirring days, as "The Kingston Volunteers." Some of them covered themselves with glory in the most decisive defeat suffered by the British navy, and all served with great credit in the Western campaign.

Before midday, the cannon having been parked and secured on a raft which had been completed at daybreak by Elihu Parrish and a gang of carpenters who worked through the preceding night, the men boarded it and began their long journey to Lake Erie. It was run into Shupp's Eddy, near what is now Plymouth Junction, to take aboard a number of men who resided in the upper part of Plymouth. Some delay was occasioned by the failure of a man named Moyer to appear, and finally to summon him Captain Thomas went ashore to the nearby home of the absent soldier. There within the squalid cabin was an indescribably pathetic scene. * Moyer's wife and children were clinging to him and sobbing bitterly. The family was large, desperately poor, and the father's labor was essential to their support. They held him fast, literally prevented him from going; and when Captain Thomas appeared in the doorway, the wife threw herself on her knees before him, and piteously begged that he allow her husband to remain. Even the firmness of the stout hearted captain was swayed and the curious crowd gathered about the open door was visibly affected. Among the onlookers, was an extraordinary young man, who overcome by the affecting scene and actuated by a noble impulse exclaimed, "Moyer give me your uniform coat and I will go in your place." Overpowered by such unexpected generosity, Moyer silently removed his uniform and handed it to his benefactor, who immediately went aboard the raft as a soldier in another's place. This young man who was soon to display the most sublime courage, and suffer the most tragic fate, was the celebrated James Bird commemorated in the song and story of the War of 1812.

At Bedford, the Kingston Volunteers were joined by thirty seven men, whom the government had gathered there; and in

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*From the account of General Thomas written in 1871.

Fayette County by twenty seven more, so that when Captain Thomas arrived at Erie he had a full complement of ninety four men. They arrived there, the 30th of April, and were assigned to a position near the mouth of Cascade Creek and commanding the inlet to the harbor, where their guns were immediately posted.

The following letter from one of the members was sent to a friend at Kingston:

Erie, Pa., May 2, 1813.

Dear Sir:

After my respects to you, this is to inform you that we all arrived at this place on the 30th of April in good health and spirits. We got here before any of the troops from the other counties, but they are arriving; there was one company arrived yesterday, and we expect them all here soon, as we understand, they are on the road. They are building two large twenty gun sloops of war; two of the gun boats are launched and the other will be tomorrow; the sloops have chief of the planks on them, and the guns have arrived. There is no prospect of the British landing soon, as the ice is not entirely gone; the place is in a poor state of defense as yet, but when the troops arrive, we shall be ready as arms and ammunition are plenty here."

The battleships being completed, they were equipped with arms and ammunition, and were lifted over the bar at Erie, by the assistance of lighters. As there were not sufficient gunners and sailors to man them, Perry called for a small number of volunteers, from among the soldiers, gathered at Erie. From the Kingston Volunteers, four gunners were to be selected, and for this service, James Bird, William Pace, Benjamin Hall, and Godfrey Bowman volunteered, and they were assigned to the Niagara.

Perry established his lookout at Put-in Bay, and from this rendezvous, on the 10th of September 1813, set forth to give, the British, battle. Before midday the fleets had maneuvered to almost striking distance; and Perry ordered his men served with meat and drink. The decks were sanded to prevent the men slipping in the blood, and at a quarter to 12 o'clock, the signal of battle, a large white pennant, with the inscription

"Don't give up the ship," the dying words of the gallant Lawrence, was unfurled from the mast of his flagship; and the American boats took their assigned positions in line of battle and bore down on the British squadron. He had ordered his ships to lay close to the enemy, as his guns were of short range and terribly effective in a closed up formation.

The Lawrence was in the van, but due to a contrary wind, her sailing master failed to maneuver as Perry desired, and she alone received the full onslaught of the British cannonade. Her masts were shot away and great holes torn in her oaken sides. The deck was strewn with wreckage and the dead and dying lay so close on the sodden deck, that the few surviving gunners were unable to avoid treading upon them. The helmsman was shot down at his wheel, and the Lawrence a helpless wreck of tangled rigging, and shivered timbers, drifted aimlessly among the British ships without spar or rudder. Her last gun was served by the surgeons, who came from the wounded below to fire her last defiant shot. None, but the maimed and dying were left. The Lawrence was only a spectre of death.

For over two hours, this hurricane of shot and shell had beat upon her. And now Perry saw the Niagara, drifting by, unharmed and without the range of the British guns. She had, perhaps through the perversity of her captain, taken little part in the engagement. With a sudden inspiration, of that divine courage which ennobles man, Perry ordered a boat lowered from the Lawrence, and manned by wounded men, he was rowed toward the Niagara. All the British guns were turned on his gallant figure, but he safely rode through the hail of lead and iron and was lifted aboard the Niagara, unscathed in limb or body.

On the Niagara, there was another spirit now. Immediately, the sailing master tacked about, and the Niagara bore down on the center of the English line. Ordered to hold their fire until close by the enemy ships, the grim gunners, with lighted fuses, stood silently by their loaded cannons. James Bird trained the first gun, that swept the Detroit and broke down her main mast.

But, the returned fury of the English guns almost swept the Americans from their posts. The last sponge was shot from a gunner's hand. Benjamin Hall with intrepid courage, jumped into the lake, seized the broken shaft, swam among the tangled wreckage and unharmed, regained his ship with it.

A cannon ball shivered the shoulder of Bird and laid him prostrate behind his gun. Sent below, the surgeons had hardly swathed the blood away, when he ran to the deck above. An officer ordered him below, but when his shoulder had been bandaged, he broke away to his gun again. This time, Perry let him stay. The terrible guns soon made the Detroit a helpless hulk, and the rest of the British squadron disabled wrecks. When Captain Barclay hoisted the white flag from his ship, Perry determined to return to the sinking Lawrence to receive his sword.

Lossing in his history of the War of 1812, says that a young man of some standing, named James Bird, served with great distinction on the Niagara, and tradition says, that he was in the boat in which Perry made his way back to his flagship; and that he stood on the quarter deck by the commanders side, and watched the English captains slowly pick their way over the dead and dying, so closely strewn on the sodden deck.

The British control, of the lake, being completely destroyed by Perry's amazing victory, General Harrison's army advanced and on September 29th, the Americans again occupied Detroit. With this expedition went the Kingston Volunteers.

General Thomas in his account says: "That when we crossed the lake and marched up opposite to the City of Detroit, the hostile Indians appeared in strong force on the bank of the river in a warlike and threatening attitude. I was ordered to cross the river with my company and drive the Indians from the city, and to remain there and guard the place, while the main army followed in the pursuit of the retreating enemy. This service was faithfully performed, although the Indians tried to prevent our landing, firing at us with their rifles; but when we opened upon them with our field guns, they scattered like a flock of sheep. While we guarded the city we had several alarms, but the Indians finding us always in readiness to meet them never ventured to come within reach of our guns."

The statement has been published that a part of the company under Lieutenant Ziba Hoyt accompanied the army and took part in the engagement at the Thames. General Thomas' statement would imply that the whole company remained and guarded Detroit, and did not participate in the battle fought October 5th in which the famous Indian chief Tecumseh was killed.

It was not, however, the heroism on the Niagara, nor the valor of the company at Detroit, which made the Kingston Volunteers so well and widely known. It was the tragic fate of James Bird, the hero of the Niagara. There was universal sorrow over his untimely end, and many considered him, the martyr hero of the War of 1812. However in his generous and valorous temperament, there was a dash of wild and reckless daring; but he was guilty only of what may well be termed, patriotic insubordination.

The capture of Detroit, practically concluded the efforts of Harrison's Army. The scene of coming strife shifted to the South, where a British invasion was apprehended. Longing for romantic adventure, Bird gathered about him some wild spirits like his own, and without permission, they left their commands and started for New Orleans, in the vicinity of which General Jackson was gathering an army. Arrested at Pittsburg as deserters, they were brought back to Erie.

A drumhead courtmartial, composed of politicians masquerading as militia officers was organized, and Bird and his companions were tried. There seems to have been no effort made to ascertain the real facts, conduct a deliberate and impartial hearing, and make the punishment adequate to the wrong. The American officers were mostly incompetent, self-seeking men, and were generally placed in command, because of their local influence. These officers were unable to maintain military discipline, and resenting the sharp criticisms, they, like weak men always do, resorted to cruelty to bolster up their authority.

Bird and two others were condemned and sentenced to die. The commanding officer, another politician approved the sentence. Bird begged, that word might be sent to Perry, and his execution delayed until the commander was heard from. But this request was denied. There is a tradition, that Perry received news of the findings of the court martial and sent a reprieve, but that before his messenger reached Erie, a firing squad shot James Bird* as he knelt before his open grave.

The sad event evoked an outburst of horror, and a poem set to music was widely circulated and sung. Lossing says that the execution of Bird was in 1814 and as Captain Thomas and his company were back in Kingston by November 26, 1813, it is evident that Bird did not return to the Kingston Volunteers, after the Battle of Lake Erie, but that he was probably attached to some other command.

On that date, November 26th, a meeting of the citizens of Kingston and Plymouth was held at the tavern of Archippus Parrish to arrange for a dinner in honor of Captain Thomas and the members of his company who had just returned. It was held Tuesday, December 14th.

That, the fathers of those early days were not all exemplary citizens; but that immorality prevailed even in that simple society is manifest, for the old records reveal, that on September 15, 1813, a "Kingston Society for the Suppression of Vice and Immorality" was organized with Rev. Benjamin Bidlack as moderator and Captain Benjamin Smith as secretary. The committee was composed of Darius Williams, Daniel Hoyt, Rev. Ard Hoyt, Rev. Benjamin Bidlack, Benjamin Smith, Oliver Pettebone, Colonel Elijah Shoemaker, Joseph Tuttle, Lazarus Denison, Samuel Breese, David Perkins, Christian G. Oehmig, Solomon Chapin, Samuel Carver, Charles Harris, Joseph Swetland, Horace Parker and Henry Buckingham. This society appears to have been quite active for a number of years and proved very troublesome to the tavern keepers who persisted in maintaining tippling houses; and to those who did work on Sunday.

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*JOHN BIRD, was born at Bedminster, Somerset County, New Jersey. He served for over three years in the Revolutionary Army, and later came to Kingston Township, settling in what is now West Wyoming. His house was on the north side of Eighth Street, a little below the bridge. He owned four acres, a portion of which was across the road. He sold this property in 1825 to Abram Bird and Samuel Harding, but Abram Bird deeded back to him in 1835, one fourth of an acre on the northeast side of the road, "on which is a building formerly occupied as a store now in the occupancy of Russell Coudrey." In 1846, Lewis G. Ensign, purchased the four acres formerly owned by the Birds. John Bird married Rebecca, daughter of John Montayne, born February 16, 1761, died March 17, 1818. He died March 5, 1839. Their children were: 1. James, the martyr (see above) born December 20, 1785; 2. Thomas born January 16, 1788, died July 7, 1828, married Polly Hill, and one of their daughters married January 3, 1856, Amos B. Sands; 3. Derrick born August 21, 1789 died August 22, 1831, married Elizabeth Space born 1792, died September 21, 1884, and their children were: Margaret born November 29, 1823, died August 24, 1897; Sarah married Webster Stewart; and James Bird; 4. Elizabeth, born January 8, 1798, died January 11, 1871, married January 19, 1817 to Peter Shafer Jr., and their children were: Mary Elizabeth married to James M. Shoemaker; George who married Emily Moore and had Mary Elizabeth who married Ephraim R. Wolfe, Marilla who married Richard E. Hutchins; and Stoughton P.; 5. Abram born July 16, 1804, kept a tavern at Pittston for many years and was known as Colonel Bird. The other children of John Bird were: Sarah born September 7, 1781, married Samuel Harding; John born July 25 1795, lived at Meshoppen; Margaret born July 6, 1795 married Eli son of Belding Swetland, and their daughter Eleanor married William Parrish who lived at Wyoming; Mary born February 1, 1800, married Aaron Van Camp; Jane born January 2, 1802, married Charles Phillips (see under Phillips); Rebecca born October 15, 1806, married Alfred Goodale.

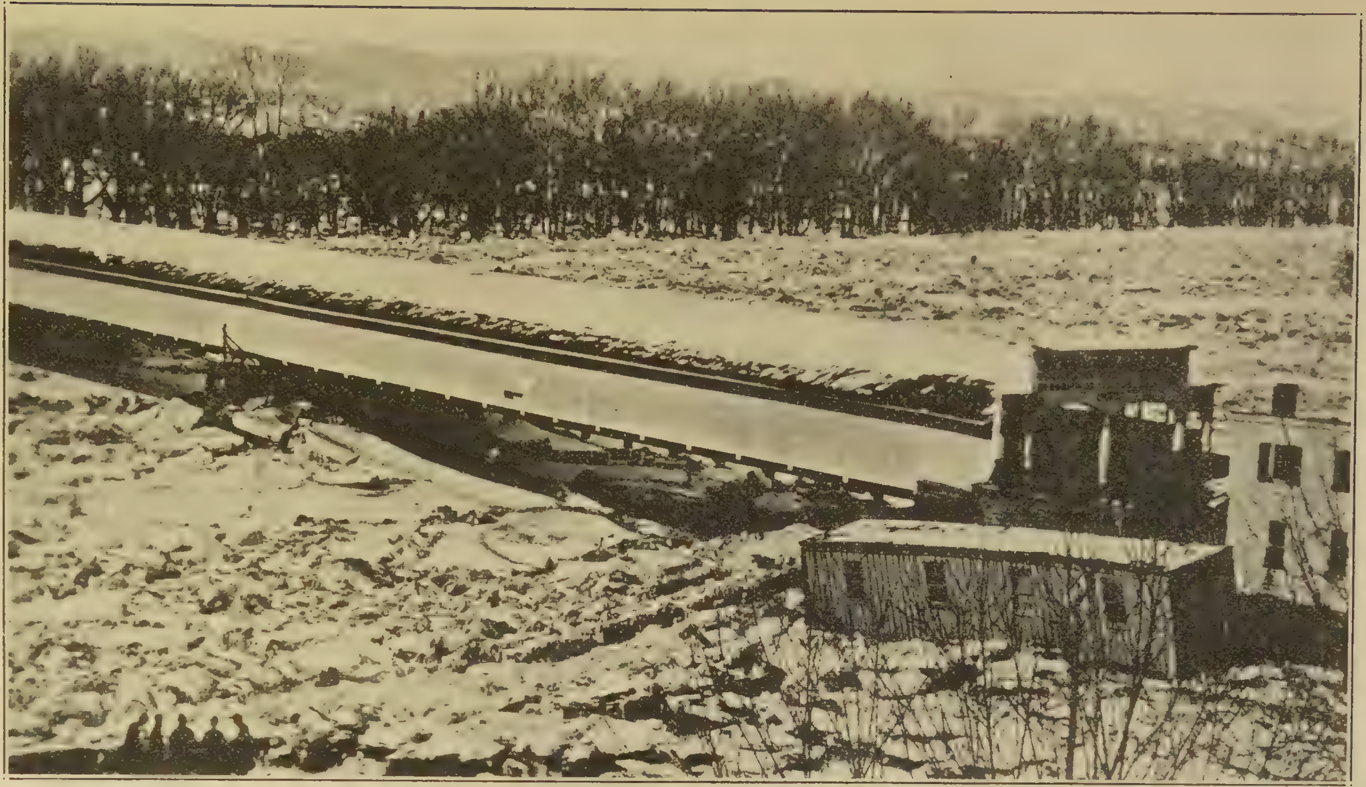
A little more than a hundred years ago the surrounding country was still a wilderness, infested with wolves and an occasional panther. A largely attended meeting of the citizens of Kingston, Exeter, and Plymouth was held at the tavern of Colonel Napthali Hurlbut in Kingston on September 14, 1814 to devise ways and means to protect themselves against the destruction caused by wolves. These animals were so numerous, then, as to almost destroy the large flocks of sheep which were pastured on the mountain range which overlooks the lowlands of the three townships. At this meeting, it was decided that all the citizens should arm themselves on a certain day, organize and divide themselves into hunting bands and surround and scour that part of the country, in which the wolves were supposed to be concealed.

Kingston Township was then Jeffersonian, in its politics, and in 1814 it gave 139 votes to Simon Snyder, the Republican or Democratic candidate, and 101 votes to Isaac Wayne, the Federalist candidate.

The War of 1812 still wearily dragged on, and the Government was so desperately in need of troops, that it paid a bounty of $124 in cash and 320 acres of land to each volunteer.

The bridge over the Susquehanna between Kingston and Wilkes-Barre was being built in 1816 and Silas Orcutt of Kingston had the contract to furnish the stone. The Wilkes-Barre Bridge Company was incorporated in 1809, and the first bridge was completed in 1818, at a cost of $44,000. The builders, Wernwag & Powell spent two years in its construction.

In 1819 the pier nearest the Wilkes-Barre side was undermined and two reaches of the bridge were lost. This damage was repaired by the State at a cost of $13,000. In 1834 the entire bridge was blown from the piers by a hurricane and deposited on the ice some distance below its original location. The State again contributed $15,000 towards its repair, and by this added sum the State was given $28,000 worth of stock in the concern, which was later sold.



THE OLD WOODEN BRIDGE BETWEEN KINGSTON AND WILKES-BARRE — TAKEN FROM THE WILKES-BARRE SIDE AND SHOWING THE GREAT ICE GORGE OF MARCH, 1875.

This covered bridge was in use until replaced by the iron structure which was torn down at the time of the erection of the present concrete bridge.

With the close of the War of 1812, little occurred of general historic interest in Kingston Township during the period which followed. As there was nothing to stimulate the growth of population, the number of inhabitants did not materially increase. The first manifestation of industrial energy in the country was the wide spread demand for internal improvements, or the canal craze as it might be called. Kingston like all other communities joined in this movement, and a great meeting was held in the Kingston Academy, February 19, 1827 of the citizens of Kingston, Plymouth, Northmoreland, Exeter, Dallas and Union Townships for the purpose of aiding canal development.

During this period, but few roads were laid. The back road was relaid but not materially changed at December Sessions 1814; and in 1815, the old road dividing the flats from the uplands, was vacated through the lands of Matthias Hollenback, Lord Butler, Benjamin Dorrance, Oliver Pettebone and John Gore. What is now Market Street was the most important road laid during this period. The construction of the river bridge brought it about and the viewers reported at April Sessions 1816 "laying a road between lands of Matthias Hollenback and Daniel Hoyt, beginning on the bank of the river opposite the Borough of Wilkes-Barre; thence North 34 degrees 30 minutes West 310.8 perches to the Main road through Kingston, to be 53 feet wide lying on M. Hollenback's land."

During this period, the most important political event in the history of the old township was its division. As previously pointed out, the court in 1790 in creating the Pennsylvania township greatly enlarged the territory of the old Susquehanna Company township, which is the present certified township of Kingston.

At the April Sessions of the court in 1816, Nehemiah Ide, a resident of the old certified township of Bedford presented his petition praying the court to erect a new township. The viewers reported, at the August Sessions, in favor of a new township with the following boundaries: "Beginning at the most southerly corner of the certified township of Bedford; thence by the south east side thereof north 56 degrees, east 2560 perches to the northeast corner thereof, and the same course continued 56 perches to a corner on the back line of the certified township of Kingston; and thence along the same north 29 degrees 30 minutes east 1326 perches to the most southerly corner of the certified township of Northmoreland; and thence by the same and the same course continued north 71 degrees west 4250 perches to a corner in the line between the counties of Lycoming and Luzerne; and thence along the line of Lycoming county south 20 degrees east 3505 perches; thence south 68 degrees east 400 perches; thence east 204 perches; thence south 12 degrees west 504 perches to the line of Union Township; thence along the same south 69 degrees east 680 perches; thence north 56 degrees east 428 perches to the place of beginning." This took out of the Pennsylvania township of Kingston, a territory having a width on the back line of the certified township of a little less than 2000 rods, and running back nearly thirteen miles to the Lycoming County line. In this territory was about one sixth of old certified Bedford. The remainder of this new township was taken from Plymouth. This report was confirmed at the April Sessions of the court in 1817, and the new township was given the name of Dallas in honor of Hon. A. J. Dallas.

This action reduced the size of Kingston Township to that of the old certified township, and it continued with the same territory for many years.

At August Sessions 1817, the road from Margaret Lark's in Plymouth township (Larksville Corners) to Joseph Swetland's (the present Courtdale road) was relaid and the old road from Swetland's to Adoniram Covert's was vacated.

In November of the same year, the court laid a road from Sutton's mill in Exeter to Charles Harris' in Kingston.

In August 1822, an attempt was made to lay a road from Market street twenty two perches west of the Wilkes-Barre bridge and thence along the bank of the river to Forty Fort. The view was excepted to and it was referred back to the viewers, who in 1824 reported it unnecessary.

CHAPTER XIV.

1830—1929

ERECTION OF BOROUGHS AND DIVISION OF TOWNSHIP.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP ERECTED—THE REESE MURDER—MANY ROADS LAID—FINAL DIVISION OF THE TOWNSHIP—CARVERTON—TRUCKSVILLE—SHAVERTOWN—EARLY SETTLERS OVER THE MOUNTAIN—TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

The history of a town, like that of a nation is most interesting in its beginning and the years of its growth. Once a community has developed into an orderly organization, there is little to record, of human interest, in its annals, save the enlargement or diminution of its territory, or the change of its industrial life.

That portion of the old township, east of the mountain, was revolutionized industrially, by the advent of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad, and the consequent development of the mining industry. Until 1860, Kingston Township was essentially agricultural, and peopled almost entirely by those of native American stock. It was as much Yankee, in its culture and ideals as any town in New England. The industrial revolution, however, which followed the Civil War, wrought a tremendous change. In the valley part, there was an influx of people of Irish, Welsh, and German origin. Socially to a great extent, these new people remained by themselves. Those of the native stock, engaged but little in the mining industry; and these immigrants, who were employed entirely about the mines, gathered in settlements of their own, which grew into several boroughs.

The village about Kingston Corners, was the first to break away, as the Borough of Kingston; and this was largely the result of the orderly development of a village, into a little country market town. But, the other boroughs, with the exception of Forty Fort and Wyoming, followed the growth of little mining settlements into considerable towns. Luzerne as

Hartsouff's Hollow, had a history independent of the mines, but it was in a state of decrepitude, long before the Civil War; and it was the early opening of the East Boston mines, that made the village grow. Likewise, West Wyoming, which in its later years, has been almost entirely supported and built up by the coal mining industry.

The territory over the mountain, remained agricultural, until the last decade, and even now, when the greater part of its population is urban, it is still largely inhabited by those of native stock. These urban dwellers are gathered together in a narrow strip of territory along the southern border; and in the remainder of the township are the same fine old farms, occupied by fine old people, descendants of those who blazed their way in the wilderness.

In this section, is written the final chapter of the history of Kingston Township, and that part of it over the mountain, which retained the essential characteristics of its founders, a similarity of race, occupations, ideals and culture.

By 1830, all the arable land had been cleared, most of the roads laid and some eight school houses built. Five little villages, Kingston, Hartsouff's Hollow, Forty Fort, New Troy, and Trucksville were in existence. The land was fertile and easily tilled, and abundant harvests made a prosperous and contented community.

The most important event, in the first two decades of this period, was the loss of a portion of the old certified township, itself, by the erection of Franklin Township, in 1843. While it is true, Dallas had been created from a part of Kingston Township, it was only that part of the municipal township of Kingston, which ran back from the certified line to Lycoming County. At the January Sessions of the court in 1843, a petition was presented for the erection of a township, out of parts of Kingston, Exeter, Northmoreland, and Dallas. William H. Alexander, Samuel L. Nicholson, and Eleazer Carey were appointed commissioners and they duly reported in favor of the erection of a new township, with the following boundaries: "Beginning at a birch marked for a corner on the line dividing the counties of Luzerne and Wyoming, 180 rods south west of the corner of Monroe Township; thence south 45 degrees east 1050 rods to a yellow pine; thence south 63 degrees east 370 rods to a white oak sapling; thence north 32 degrees east 404 rods to a rock; thence north 77 degrees east 320 rods to a yellow pine; thence north 32 degrees east 160 rods to a black oak sapling; thence north 13 degrees west 808 rods to a stake and stones in the line dividing the said counties of Luzerne and Wyoming near the grist mill of Gould Whitlock; thence along said dividing line south 77 degrees west 1650 rods to the beginning." The report was confirmed absolutely by the Court at the April Sessions 1843, and a new township was established by the name of Franklin, presumably in honor of Colonel Franklin. From the certified Township of Kingston, there was taken about one third of certified lots Nos. 36, 37, 38, 39 and 40 or about 550 acres.

In 1848, a petition was presented to the court to incorporate more of Exeter and Kingston, in Franklin Township; and the commissioners, then appointed: William H. Alexander, A. C. Lanning, and Stephen Vaughn, reported in favor of the following addition: "Beginning at a stake on line of lands of Jonas Frantz and Henry Patterson, also on line of Franklin Township, as originally laid out, at the distance 119¾ rods from the white oak sapling corner of said township; thence south 32¼ degrees east 106 perches to the corner of Jonas and Jacob Frantz; thence north 57¼ degrees east 38 rods; thence north 67¼ degrees east 80 rods to line of Nos. 38 and 39 certified lots, as also the line between Samuel C. Durland and Jacob Frantz; thence along said line south 32¼ degrees east 285 rods to a corner on line dividing certified lots; thence along said line north 41¼ degrees east 210 perches to corner on line of certified Kingston and Exeter; thence across a lot in certified name of Nathan Denison and Samuel Gilbert; thence north 11¾ degrees west 337 rods to a black oak sapling an original corner of said Franklin." This report was confirmed absolutely August 11, 1848; and thereby Kingston was deprived of all of certified lots Nos. 39 and 40, which remained; another one-third of lot No. 38; and a small part of what remained of lot No. 37, or about 570 acres. In all, by these two proceedings, about 1120 acres were taken from the certified Township of Kingston and incorporated in Franklin Township.

At the April Sessions of 1831, there was relaid, what is now Main street, Kingston Borough or then: "the road from near the house of Aaron Roberts on the Plymouth line to the main road, passing twenty-five feet from the north corner of James Barnes' store house (the old stone house) and running on the center midway between the houses of James Gallup and Anson Morton." It is stated in a previous chapter, that this road began on the Plymouth line and ran to the avenue at a point on the division line between the meadow lots which would be on the present line of I. A. Carle. This is an error, as the old road was several rods north of Market Street. The laying of Market street to the bridge led to the disuse of the old road between Gore and Matthewson, from the pond hole to the corners. Consequently, it was necessary to have Main street relaid, so as to throw the intersection where it now is.

In 1842, the road from J. I. Shoemaker's to Asa Keeler's (the old road to the Three Islands) was altered; and in 1847, a small portion of the road leading by the paper mill to Dallas was changed from a point at the intersection of the Blindtown road (present Courtdale road) to a point opposite the upper grist mill, by relaying it west of its old location. In 1851, a road was laid from a point on the public road near William Church's barn (over the mountain) and thence to Isaac Schooley's and thence running east over the mountain and down by Hiram Denison's line to intersect the back road near T. P. Hunt's back line above Maltby corners. The latter part of this road has been abandoned for many years.

The community was excited by a horrible murder, the first of which we have a record in Kingston Township, which occurred in the middle of the afternoon of October 1, 1852. Louis Reese, a Hebrew merchant of Wilkes-Barre was the victim, and his body was found the next morning in a hollow, covered with brush, at a location on the Kingston flats, not far from Market street. Robbery was the motive and the crime was committed within eighty rods of a dwelling.

It seems, that early in the afternoon, one Reese Evans, a young man, aged about eighteen years appeared at the store of Mr. Reese and purchased a suit of clothes, and said that if Mr. Reese would accompany him to the house of Mr. Lazarus in Kingston, where he had been working, he, Lazarus would pay for the clothes and also a small debt, which Evans owed Reese. The two men left the town together and were seen to cross the bridge. When Reese failed to appear that night, suspicion was aroused, and a search made but the body was not discovered until the next morning. Evans was traced to Pittston, where he took the stage for Carbondale and went from there to Dundaff, where he was arrested. At Scranton, he escaped from the constable who had him in charge, but was rearrested in Benton Township and brought to Wilkes-Barre and placed in jail. He was duly convicted of the crime, and hanged in the jail yard on East Market street, by Sheriff G. W. Palmer, on September 9, 1853. Executions were then more or less public, and it was a holiday event, the town being filled with strangers. At noon, both militia companies marched to the jail, and formed a hollow square around the scaffold. The prisoner was attended by the Rev. Dr. George Peck, who then resided in Kingston. The jail yard was crowded, and the adjoining roofs and windows were thronged with curious men and women. Evans' father and a brother-in-law, named Howells, both beastly drunk, stood in front of the scaffold, and watched the execution.

This disgusting episode, would seem to indicate, that while we may have not greatly improved, there, is today, a more decent exhibition of human conduct.

In 1852, an attempt was made to sever the old township, a petition being presented to form a new township out of that portion from the Plymouth line and following the ridge of the mountain to the Exeter line, and thence bounded by Exeter on the east and Franklin and Dallas on the north and Jackson on the west. The commissioners Abel Baldwin, Abram Ryman, and Conrad Kunkle, reported in favor of the division, but a remonstrance was filed and nothing further done. In 1853, a road was laid twenty feet in width from near William Swetland's house on the avenue to the back road, and in the same year, a petition to lay a road, (the present Grove street, in the Boroughs of Edwardsville, Kingston, Pringle and Luzerne) was refused. In 1854, a road was laid from a point on Abraham's Creek between Robbins' saw mill and Phillips' mill up to the crest of the mountain, and thence south to intersect the John Heft road at the corner of Denison's and Tuttle's land.

Kingston Borough was incorporated in 1857, as stated at length in another chapter. In 1860, a petition was presented to divide the township, by a line running between the Third and Fourth Divisions, and to erect all over the mountain into a new township. The commissioners John Sturdevant, Lord Butler, and Charles A. Lane, reported favorably December 3, 1860, but exceptions were filed, and this ended the project.

The mail facilities, afforded the people over the mountain were very poor and in 1855, there was but one delivery a week from the Kingston Postoffice, to the offices at Trucksville, Huntsville, and other places.

A postoffice was established at Trucksville, January 2, 1828, with Jacob Rice as postmaster. The subsequent postmasters, with the dates when appointed, have been:

William C. Hagaman, March 8, 1837; James R. Lewis, May 27, 1837; Wm. C. Hagaman, December 19, 1838; Jacob Rice, July 27, 1842; John P. Rice, December 11, 1857; James Monighan, October 15, 1883; Jacob R. Shaver, October 12, 1889; James Monighan, March 23, 1893; Andrew Harter, April 24, 1897; Charles S. Norris, April 17, 1901; William C. Johnson, January 30, 1907; Samuel R. Hess, January 8, 1908; Asa P. Shaver, September 2, 1913; Chas. Anderson, December 13, 1919; Mrs. Jane Lohman, April 4, 1925; Mrs. Jane Lohman, Presidential appointment December 16, 1926, present incumbent.

A postoffice was established at Carverton, December 14, 1844, with Jabez Carver as postmaster. The subsequent postmasters, with dates when appointed, have been:

Rufus Carver, February 11, 1847; Samuel Good, October 30, 1860; Isaac H. Phillips, May 27, 1863; Isaac Read, February 15, 1869; Isaac Austin, July 12, 1872; John W. Drake, June 3, 1875; Isaac C. Edwards, September 14, 1885; Amos B. Sax, April 16, 1897; This office was discontinued, effective May 14, 1906, and mail is handled through Trucksville office.

A postoffice was established at Shavertown, May 7, 1891, with Harriet E. Lozier as postmistress. The subsequent postmasters, with dates when appointed, have been.

Hattie E. George, May 17, 1894; W. Henry Calkins, March 14, 1899; Cory B. Ferguson, May 22, 1899; Samuel P. Totten, June 6, 1900; Elisha H. Harris, February 27, 1903; Edward D. Travis, October 14, 1907; Bert P. Stroh, December 22, 1911; George W. Wilson, July 1, 1920; Herman S. Van Campen, November 28, 1922, present postmaster.

In 1856, it was announced that iron had been discovered in the Kingston Mountain and considerable interest was aroused. Dr. William Brisbane opened a mine above Mill Hollow, not far from the old paper mill site. Two openings were made, and it was called the Mary Ellen Iron Ore Mine. Nothing, however came of the project.

The Luzerne County Agricultural Society was organized in 1858, and held its first fair at Wyoming, October 4, 5, 6, and 7, 1859. It was largely attended. The fair ground was large and contained an excellent race track. Very successful fairs were held there, for a number of years.

In 1861, the court appointed, John Sturdevant, Lord Butler and William Alexander, commissioners to divide the township, and take that part northeast of a line between lands of George Shoemaker deceased, and Robert McD. Shoemaker and thence along line between lands of the Kingston Coal Company, and Elijah Shoemaker, and thence back to Franklin Township; and that part of Exeter along the boundary of West Pittston and the Susquehanna River to the western line of Exeter. The commissioners reported in favor of the new township, January 28, 1861, but exceptions were filed and nothing further was done. At the August Sessions 1865, a road, (now Grove street) was laid beginning at a point on the public road, near the store of Isaac Rice and thence to near Hancock's mill, now Schooley's mill, Luzerne. The report was confirmed absolutely, January 26, 1866, and the road ordered opened. In 1852, the North Kingston Election District, embracing all the territory over the mountain, was established, and the place of election fixed at the Harris Hill school house.

The Northeast Election District composed of the territory now in Wyoming and West Wyoming had been created, and in 1867, there was added to it, all that part of the township north of the stone bridge, and running back to Franklin Township. In 1875, a new election district was taken off the Southeast

Election District to vote at the school house in Forty Fort. In the Southeast District, they voted at the Mill Hollow school house.

The legislature incorporated the Kingston and Dallas Turnpike Company, April 18, 1864, with Wesley Kunkle, John Urquhart, George A. Shafer, Steuben Jenkins, Samuel Raub, George M. Hollenback, John B. Smith, Albert Holcomb, Samuel Hoyt, John Reichard, and Abram Ryman as incorporators. It provided for the construction of a turnpike road from Pettebone's Corners to the village of Kunkle. This was extended to the Wilkes-Barre bridge by subsequent legislation. April 16, 1870, an act was approved, incorporating the Dallas and Kingston Turnpike Road Company, and the incorporators were Charles Dorrance, Payne Pettebone, James Garrahan, Isaac Tripp, Albert H. Holcomb, Joseph Frantz, A. Ryman, Z. B. Rice, Joseph Harter, Henry Coon, Samuel Hoyt, Samuel Raub, Jacob Rice and John Keller. They were authorized to construct a road from the old grist mill at Luzerne to Dallas. This turnpike was in existence for many years and the toll house stood a little above the upper bridge above Luzerne.

The great flood on the North Branch of the Susquehanna occurred on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1865. Heavy rains and a warm south wind melted the snow which was unusually deep up the river, and as a result a torrent of water poured over the lowlands. It was the greatest flood ever known and places presumed to be safe were inundated. On March 18th, the crest of the torrent reached the alarming height of 33.1 feet. No place was safe except on the hills. All about Kingston Corners was covered with the raging waters. The water flowed up Market Street as far as College Street and ran into the Seminary basement windows. The top of a stone hitching post, which stood until recent years in front of Church's drug store was covered several inches. Wyoming Avenue at the stone bridge was flooded for a long distance. There were no habitations on the lowlands, and of course the damage was not nearly so great as it would be at the present time.

The first great flood which has been recorded was that of March 15, 1784, when the river reached the height of 30 feet, as given by the records at Harrisburg, which are based upon the contents of a letter written, by Rev. Jacob Johnson, a few days after the flood. That it made a great impression on the settlers is evident, for the early writers make much of it. On the 13th and 14th, the rain fell in torrents, melting the snow and the following day" says Chapman, "the ice in the river began to break up and the streams rose with great rapidity. The ice first gave way at the different rapids and floating down in great masses, lodged against the frozen surface of the more gentle parts of the river, where it remained firm. In this manner several large dams were formed, which caused such an accumulation of water, that the river overflowed all its banks, and one general inundation overspread the extensive plains of Wyoming. The inhabitants took refuge on the surrounding heights, and saw their property exposed to the fury of the waters. At length, the upper dam gave way and huge masses of ice were scattered in every direction. The deluge bore down on the dams below, which successively yielded to the insupportable burden, and the whole went off with the noise of contending storms. Houses, barns, fences, stacks of hay and grain were swept away in the general destruction, to be seen no more. The plain on which the village of Wilkes-Barre is built was covered with heaps of ice, which continued a great portion of the following summer."

Abel Peirce lived near the present Peirce Street, and during the night he and his family were aroused by the onrushing waters, and took refuge on a raft secured to a nearby tree, the day before, where they spent the night in intense anxiety. Their entire possessions were swept away but their lives were saved. Asa Jackson, of the old Forty Fort family was drowned. He, with Daniel Gore, was standing on the river bank, watching the flood. When the deluge of water bore down upon them, Jackson sprang upon his horse and raced for the higher ground, but was overcome and drowned; while Mr. Gore, who apparently had no way of escape, saved himself by springing into a canoe, as it floated by.

The great Pumpkin Food occurred October 5, 1786. This was so called because the river overflowed all the lowlands, and swept the fields clear of the ripe and yellow pumpkins, which floating in the waters gave a singular aspect to the flood. According to the Harrisburg records, the water reached the alarming height of 29 feet.

The water reached the height of 30 feet in April 1807; and the next great flood was May 14, 1833, with a height of 28 feet. There was a great flood caused by an ice gorge, on March 13, 1846, the water being the highest since 1807.

In February 1866, there was a bad ice gorge, but the most disastrous ice gorge was that of March 16, 1875, when according to the United States Army records, the water reached 35.6 feet, the greatest height in the history of the river. There was a great gorge, which filled, the valley at Ransom, with water; and the breaking of this swept away all the bridges at Pittston. The water probably did not reach as high a stage between Kingston and Wilkes-Barre, but Market Street was covered with a mountain of ice, and a great cut was driven through it, so that the horse cars and wagons could pass.

The United States Weather Bureau has recorded the following floods: January 24, 1891, height 26.8 feet; March 11, 1893, height 28.7 feet, ice gorged; March 3, 1895, ice gorged, height 27 feet; April 1, 1896, height 24 feet; January 7, 1899, ice gorged, height 25 feet.

On December 15, 1901, the water reached a height of 27 feet. There was an ice gorge at Toby's Eddy, and the water flooded some of the stores at Kingston Corners.

The present generations distinctly remember the disastrous floods of 1902 and 1904. According, to the record of the United States Geological Survey, on March 2, 1902, the water reached the height of 31.4 feet; and on March 9, 1904, the height of 30.6 feet. Due to the great growth of population, the lowlands had been partly built upon, and the damage and suffering was greater then, than during any other flood. The Westmoor section was completely under water and all the people were driven from their habitations. All the lower part of Kingston below Kingston Corners was under water. Rutter Street was flooded nearly to Hoyt. The water came down the old creek bed and flooded the section of Maple Street around St. Ignatius' Church, and College Street above Hoyt Street. The Lackawanna trains were unable to run; and between Forty Fort and Wyoming there were several feet of water. In the flood of 1902, a man named Riley lost his life on the Kingston flats. He was returning from Wilkes-Barre in a cab, when the onrushing waters on Peirce Street swept the horse and cab away. Riley and the driver floated in the water for some distance, and the latter managed to get on a floating cake of ice which drifted against the porch of a house on Market Street. He secured entrance to the house, which was deserted by its occupants, and was taken out the next day, being uninjured. Riley caught hold of the branches of a tree. His cries could be heard from the Kingston shore, but no one was able to row out to him in the raging waters, and although he beld to the tree for some time, he was finally overcome and drowned in the icy water.

Subsequent floods have been: March 3, 1910, height 26.1 feet; March 28, 1913, height 28.5 feet; March 29, 1914, height 28.3 feet.

In 1874, the dug road (in West Wyoming) was laid: "Beginning at the public road leading from the village of Wyoming to Dallas, at a point near the old stone foundry (Sturdevant fulling mill); thence through unimproved land of Isaac Shoemaker and W. S. Shoemaker to a public road about two thirds of the way up the mountain". In 1875, Slocum street Edwardsville, was laid from the Kingston Coal Co. tracks to the main road. In 1877, the Southwest Election District was divided, and that part between the Dorrance and Bennet line (Union Street) and Plymouth line, was called the South west District, and voted at the East Boston school house, at the foot of Pringle Hill; and the remainder called the Middle District voted at Mill Hollow school house.

In 1878, another attempt was made to create two townships. The commissioners appointed for the one over the mountain, were: John Ferguson, Charles H. Cooke, and Ira D. Shaver, and they reported favorably. The other new township was to be called Wyoming and was to run from the Maltby lane to the West Pittston line, taking in part of Exeter, and from the river to the back line of the Third Division. The commissioners P. B. Reynolds, Wesley Johnson, and J. Milton Courtright reported favorably. Both projects were submitted to the people at the same time, and the vote resulted: For new township of Wyoming, 75, against it 362; for new township back of the mountain 167, against it 314.

In 1881, Slocum street, Forty Fort was laid from the house of Abram Line, on the avenue to the back road near the residence of John Bartholomew. In 1882, the Maltby Election District was set off from the Middle District, and in 1883, the Pringleville Election District (now Courtdale) was created out of the West District. In 1885, the election place of the Northeast District was changed from Wyoming to the Reilay school house. In January 1887, the polling place was changed from Forty Fort to the Dorrance house at the corner of Wyoming Avenue and Union Street, and the same year the polling place of the Northeast District was changed from the Reilay school house to the Maple Grove school house. In 1887, Pringle street was opened from the back road near the Boston school house to the Kingston Borough line. The Pringle Hill election district was divided April 29, 1898.

The boroughs were incorporated: Luzerne, September 23, 1882; Wyoming, 1885; Edwards, June 16, 1884, Forty Fort, January 31, 1887, decree modified April 16, 1888; Dorranceton, June 20, 1887; Courtdale, September 6, 1897; Swoyersville, decree made December 17, 1898, and affirmed by Superior Court January 3, 1900, upon appeal. The date of the incorporation of Kingston Borough has been previously given; and West Wyoming which was created by a division of Wyoming; and Pringle created out of Pringle Township, at the time of their incorporation, were no part of the municipal Kingston Township, and will be treated elsewhere.

The final act, in the political history of Kingston Township, occurred in 1905. After many attempts, at division, made during a long period of years, the logical thing was done, upon a petition, presented to the court at the January Sessions in 1905, to divide what remained of the old township. The election was held May 23, 1905, and resulted in 246 votes being cast in favor of a division and none against it.

The Court made its decree, November 25, 1905; as follows: "First: That portion of Kingston Township, bounded by the Boroughs of West Wyoming, Swoyersville, Luzerne and Courtdale, and the townships of Jackson, Dallas, Franklin and Exeter, composing nine tenths of the territory shall form one township to be known as Kingston.

"Second: All that part bounded by the boroughs of Kingston, Edwardsville, Courtdale, Luzerne, and Dorranceton, and that portion bounded by the boroughs of Forty Fort, Swoyersville, and Wyoming and the Susquehanna river, a township to be called the Township of Pringle."

The decree was made effective, the first Monday of March, 1906.

The first settler west of the Kingston Mountain was undoubtedly Parker Wilson, who made his pitch or settlement in the woods, some seven miles back of the Susquehanna River and in Kingston Township, according to an affidavit made by him in 1777. Subsequent conveyances made by his administrator would seem to indicate, that his improvement was in the present Dallas Township not far from the Kingston line. If we take his affidavit as authority, it was in Kingston Township, and if we rely on the description contained in deeds of lands, which he owned at the time of his death, it was in the municipal township of Kingston created in 1790, and a little west of the certified line. Parker Wilson came from the Kent District of New Milford, Connecticut. He was attacked by the Indians, as previously related, but escaped to his cabin and succeeded in beating them off. Mr. Wilson was killed in the Battle of Wyoming..

During the troubled times subsequent to the massacre, settlement in the wilderness west of the mountain was postponed, and the solitude of the forest was undisturbed, except by the daring hunter, or the settler who ventured, into the maple woods in the early spring, to make sugar. According to the testimony of Lawrence Myers, the Fourth Division was drawn in 1787; and this back section was soon thereafter settled.

Elijah and Charles Harris are said to have been the first permanent settlers west of the mountain. Elijah Harris* built a small grist mill on Abraham's Creek and the foundation may still be seen on the farm of William P. Saxe[*]. This was the first mill erected over the mountain and it was probably built, shortly after 1788, the year in which he bought lot No. 12, upon which it was erected. About one half mile below this ancient mill, is the present large planing mill of M. J. Heft, driven by the water power of the creek, and erected on the site of an old saw mill. Below this on the W. B. Sutton or Elizabeth Baker place was another old mill, once operated by Charles Heft.

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*ELIJAH HARRIS, was born in 1735, the son of Peter Harris, one of the "First Forty", and he died in February, 1823. His son Charles Harris, born in Orange County, N. Y., in February 1768, married Martha Peirce, born February 10, 1782, died February 5, 1854. On August 20, 1791 he purchased one half of lot No. 11; and also purchased one half of lot No. 29 in 1797, and lot No. 30 in 1798. Elijah and Charles Harris at one time owned over eight hundred acres in and about Harris Hill. Charles Harris died in 1864, at the age of ninety-six years. He reared a family of nine children. His son, Hiram Harris, born September 8, 1807, lived on the homestead of his father. In 1832 he married Mary Heft, born June 1, 1806, died May 13, 1853. Their children were: Elias, born January 1, 1831 and Lyman. By his second wife Mary Atherholt, he had a son Milton. Lyman Harris was born September 22, 1837, and was a saddler at Luzerne and served in the Civil War. The other children of Charles Harris were: Sally born May 20, 1795, died September 16, 1867, married Ezra Ide; Susannah, born August 22, 1797, died September 24, 1879, married Henry Newman; Sylvinia, born January, 1800 ,died June 1, 1871, married Jacob Heft, born April 1, 1797, died November 14, 1879; Elisha born 1801, died April 16, 1888, the well known local preacher, married Sarah Hawke, born August, 1804, died October 19, 1891; Daniel, born August 1, 1804, died May 18, 1876; Chester, born July 26, 1815, died June 26, 1898, married Jerusha Williamson, born

Nathan Mulford[†] purchased one-half of Lot No. 27 in 1796 and settled there.

Charles Harris was a local preacher and early organized a Methodist class. The fine old farms in this section, known as Harris Hill, mostly belonged to members of the Harris family and the community was once known as Harrisburg.

In 1796, Jonathan Carver[‡] purchased one half of lot No. 27 and there made his home. It is now known as the Asa Munson farm, and the old Carver house stood on the opposite side of the road, from the present residence. Nearly opposite the Munson house is the old Carver family burial plot, where Jonathan Carver was buried. Samuel Carver, his son, purchased lot

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February 13, 1824, died December 7, 1855; and second to Mary Wheeler, born February 23, 1833, died April 11, 1903; and William C. William, son of Elijah Harris, operated the Tuttle mill on Abraham's Creek at the stone bridge, but his family removed from Kingston Township, many years ago. Samuel, son of Elijah Harris was born in 1778, died April 20, 1862, married Ann Ayres, born June 1787, died December 11, 1860, and their children were: Candace, born March 6, 1805, died August 4, 1873, married Benjamin S. Walker; Rev. Jacob, a well known local preacher of the Methodist Church; John who served during the Civil War married Mary Cosmer; Sally, born in 1810, died November 3, 1878; Lorenzo D., born March 14, 1814, died May 3, 1893, married Phoebe Crispell, born April 3, 1824, died November 17, 1891; Marian, born February 3, 1827, died April 18, 1913, married Elijah Harris, son of William Harris, born February 6, 1805, died August 23, 1890.

[*] WILLIAM SAXE, was born in Chestnut Hill Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, May 11, 1818. He was the son of John Sax born in 1768, and his wife Catherine Kresge, born 1775, a daughter of Conrad Kresge, after whom Kresgeville was named. Mr. Sax came to Wyoming Valley from Broadheadsville, Monroe County in 1835, and worked on the canal until 1840. In 1843 he came to Wyoming and ran the old grist mill for Isaac C. and William Shoemaker. In 1865 he purchased the Church farm at Carverton. He married Mary Mulford, daughter of Nathan Mulford in 1847, and their children were: Edwin, James, Sterling, Katherine married John B. Kitchen, and Marion.

[†] NATHAN MULFORD, came from East Hampton, Long Island, and in 1799 purchased one half of Lot No. 27 in the Fourth Division of Kingston Township. He married Jemima Derby also from Long Island. He lived on Harris Hill, but later removed to Carverton. His children were: Belle, married ——— Dow and moved to Ohio, Parmelia married George Frantz, son of Jacob Frantz, Julius who lived near Port Jervis, Horatio married Libbie Courtright, Sarah married Albert Hatten, and removed to Binghamton, and Mary married William Sax. Parmelia and George Frantz had the following children: Cole, Emma, Minnie, Daniel, Anna, Bert, and Jacob. Emma Frantz married William H. Jackson of Kingston Township, who was a member of Company F. 53d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, in the Civil War and was wounded at Gettysburg. William H. Jackson was a son of Samuel Jackson an early settler at Carverton, who married Ruth Carver, and their other children were Earl, Jabez, and Jennie.

[‡] JONATHAN CARVER, was born in Windham, Connecticut, December 18, 1741, and married November 5, 1767, Mary Waller. He removed to Kingston Township about 1789. Their children were 1. Rev Samuel Carver, born in Kent, Conn., September 28, 1768, married

No. 36 of the Fourth Division and in 1801 one half of lot No. 37, and the section of the township now known as Carverton was named after him.

In 1794, Isaac Montayne* purchased of Thomas Wighton, one-third of lot No. 34 of the Fourth Division. His father, John Montayne came here from Orange County, N. Y. before 1790. Isaac Montayne also purchased three hundred acres from the estate of Parker Wilson.

The Munson family is one of the oldest in Kingston Township. Benjamin Carpenter conveyed a part of Monocanock Island to Wilmot Munson in 1792, and lot No. 26 of the Fourth Division was purchased by Mr. Munson February 18, 1795, about which time the family moved west of the Kingston Mountain. Michael C. Munson acquired a part of lot No. 25 in 1801.

Jacob Frantz† purchased a farm of 135 acres, parts of lots, Nos. 28 and 29 in 1814; and he purchased a part of lot No. 37, consisting of 148 acres in 1816. A part of this latter lot he sold to Jonas Frantz in 1818.

Jane Montanye, born June 10, 1773, died May 2, 1844. His home was on lot No. 36 near the Carverton chuch. He was a well known local Methodist preacher and a prominent citizen of the township. He died May 26, 1835. His son Isaac, born December 26, 1791, died January 3, 1843, married Lydia Brace, born June 10, 1787, died March 28, 1863. In 1843, he removed to Wyoming County. A daughter Jane, born in 1812, married Hiram Swetland, and their children were Samuel and Uriah. 2. Eunice, born August 18, 1771, died May 14, 1845, married Elisha Atherton; 3. Addison, born in Kent, Conn. about 1781 removed to Delaware County, Ohio about 1810. 4. Jabez born February 8, 1787 died July 26, 1846, married about 1809 Polly Young, born October 22, 1781, died June 8, 1854. In 1838 he purchased the farm, of his brother, the late Samuel Carver at Carverton and resided there until his death. His children were Ruth Ann, born February 18, 1810, died April 29, 1843, married Samuel Jackson; Mary, born November 14, 1811, married Charles M. Woolbert; Eunice, born February 3, 1814, died November 15, 1888' married Rev. John Jayne; Jane, born March 15, 1816, died August 10, 1838; Ann, born March 12, 1822, died May 17, 1900; married Richard May; Marilla, born April 18, 1825, married Thomas May; Rufus Carver, son of Jabez Carver was born June 20, 1820 and died May 21, 1866, married Nancy Harding, born December 24, 1824, died February16, 1887. She married second, Jameson Hunlock, who is mentioned elsewhere. Rufus Carver lived on the old homestead at Carverton until 1860, when he purchased the old Presbyterian chapel in Wyoming which he remodelled into the residence where he died. His children were Amy Elzabeth, born July 16, 1847, died February 9, 1861; and Mary Jane, born March 7 1850, married Samuel R. Shoemaker; 5. Ann, born January 14, 1790, died January 14 1873, married Reuben Mullison, born February 29, 1792, died August 1, 1857; 6. Lucinda born August 8, 1793, died June 20, 1848, married William Church, born August 20, 1791, died March 20, 1864.

*JOHN MONTANYE came to Kingston Township, before 1790, from Orange County, N. Y. His children were: 1. Mary, who married Lieutenant John Horton in 1782; 2. Joseph, whose children were: Sarah, born October 4, 1796, died May 8, 1862, married John P. Shaver; Joseph Jr., married Marilla Spencer; William, born 1802, died August 2, 1854; Lovisa, born January 3, 1804, died March 19, 1877, married James Shaver; Hiram; Dorcas, born August 26, 1808, died July 24, 1867, married Daniel Harris; Nathan D.; Isaac Miller, born September 10, 1814, died April 25, 1888; 3. Rebecca, born 1763, died March 17, 1818, married John Bird and was the mother of the celebrated James Bird; 4. Andrew, born March 12, 1766, died December 24, 1851, married Amy Harding and lived in Exeter; 5. Isaac, died in November, 1818. His children were: Clarissa; Elizabeth, born December 1, 1803, died March 21, 1872, at Mansfield, Ohio, married Abraham Nesbitt, born November 1, 1803, died September 4, 1834; Charles; Rhoda; Samuel; John, born February 12, 1812, died May 12, 1838; Sally, Eunice and Polly; 6. Jane, born July, 1773, died May 2, 1844, married Rev. Samuel Carver; 7. Nancy, born August14, 1777, died August 13, 1857, married Lewis Mullison; 8. Elizabeth, born July 9, 1780, died April 30, 1857, married Philemon Clark.

†SOLOMON, JONAS, AND JACOB FRANTZ, three brothers came from near Easton in Northampton County, to Kingston Township, and purchased several hundred acres of land in the vicinity of what is now Carverton. Jacob Frantz married Sarah Weise and had the following

The section known as Bunker Hill was first permanently settled by Christian Atherholt,[*] who purchased from Joseph Swetland a part of lot No. 7 of the Fourth Division, consisting of 144 acres, and he added to this by purchasing part of lot No. 8 in 1833.

Isaac Schooley[†] acquired the fine farm, later owned by his son the late William C. Schooley, and he and his sons were among the most prosperous and prominent people of Kingston Township.

Another early settler on Bunker Hill was John Anderson.[‡]

Soon after the allotment of the Fourth Division, a little village grew up about the mills which were early established at what is now Trucksville. On April 22, 1803, Joel Lucas conveyed to William Trucks lots Nos. 21 and 22 of the Fourth Division. Upon this land was the excellent mill site, afforded by the falls

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children: Solomon, George, William, Jack, Margaret married Samuel Honeywell, Betsey married Milton Goode, Sallie married John Hunter, Katie Ann, married Elias Shaver, Cadille married Elias Harris, Olive married Ebenezer Brown.

[*] Christian Atherholt, came from New Jersey, first to the Wyoming Valley where he followed the trade of a cooper. He then removed over the mountain and settled in the Bunker Hill section. His chidren were: Betsey, who married Abel Munson, and they had a son David Munson; Catharine, who married Isaac Schooley; Esther, who married Jacob Delay, who lived at Trucksville and conducted a wagon shop there for many years; and whose children were: Catherine, married Louis Sturmer; Mary, Libbie, and Emanuel; Rachel who married John Anderson; Mary who married first Peter Frantz and second Hiram Harris; David who owned the mill (Schooleys) at Luzerne for many years and who married Charlotte Anderson, and whose chldren were: Harvey, Christian. John, Samuel, Charles and Wesley; and Nancy who married John Faser.

[†] Isaac Schooley, son of Nathaniel Schooley, who came to Exeter Township from Sussex County, N. J., was born July 25, 1796, and died in 1872. He married, November 27, 1823, Catharine, born December 28, 1799, died May 8, 1882, daughter of Christian Atherholt. Their children were: 1. David Schooley, born April 1, 1824, died January 15, 1900, and never married. He was captain of the famous Schooley's Battery, during the Civil War from 1862 to 1865, and Captain 26th United States Regular Infantry from 1867 to 1889. He was appointed Major in the United States Regular Army April 23, 1904. Major Schooley died at his farm on Bunker Hill, where he spent his later years. He was a familiar figure thirty years ago and always rode a spirited horse, when he came down from his home on Bunker Hill, to the stores at Luzerne or Kingston Corners. In his young manhood, David Schooley was a very skillful and accurate surveyor and during the Civil War, he was a gallant and distinguished soldier, commanding a famous battery in many severe engagements; 2. Christian Atherholt Schooley, born April 9, 1826, died September 19, 1901, married Sarah Wilcox, daughter of Joseph Wilcox,born August 26, 1828, died October 4, 1911, and their children were: Elizabeth, born March 12, 1854; Marvin L., born November 9, 1855, married Elizabeth Munson, daughter of Asa Munson, born May 16, 1860; Reuben L., born August 25, 1857, married Mary Montanye; George L., born August 29, 1858, married Esther Prynn; Mary E., born May 23 1861, married Charles Knarr; Ezra C.,born February, 1863, married Mary E. Williamson; Clarence R., born December 10, 1865, died young; Esther A., born December 23, 1867, died young; Ida L., born October 15, 1870, married Chalmers Rice; 3. Joseph P., born August 11, 1827, died October 4, 1911, married Lydia Frantz, born September 14, 1824, died August 18, 1896; 4. William C., born December 28, 1829, never married, died in 1923; 5. Elizabeth, born August 2, 1831, died January 24, 1855; 6. George, born July 20, 1835, died September 5, 1915, married Mary E. Shaver; 7. Isaac Miner, born April 17, 1839, died August 3, 1871, married Martha Hazletine.

[‡] John Anderson, was born in July, 1811 and died in 1884; married Rachel Atherholt born in 1807, died in 1887. He first settled on the farm now occupied by Ziba Schooley and then exchanged it for the place on Bunker Hill. His children were Margaret who married John Schooley; William, married Libbie Mullison; Elizabeth, married Reuben Prutzman; Asa, married Ann Prutzman; Alvah married Arminda Reeves. All of the above are dead. John Anderson's other children now living are: Walter, married Susie Nulton; James, born January 10, 1850, married in 1873, Margaret Prutzman, born November 19, 1849, lives at Trucksville; Laura, born in 1855, married Frank Wilcox.

of Toby's Creek, and a little above the present large grist mill, Mr. Trucks built a saw mill. This mill was in operation in 1804, as it is mentioned as the terminus of a road laid, then.

A little south of this saw mill, he erected a grist mill in which he installed a run of stones, and ground grists of grain. The mill dam may have been a little above the present ruins. About 1811, William Trucks[*] removed to Wayne, Knox County, Ohio, and his attorney-in-fact, Daniel Ayers sold his possessions on February 14, 1812 to Benjamin Dorrance and George Chahoon, who a month later sold the mills and plantation to Joseph Swetland. Mr. Swetland operated the mills until September 27, 1814, when he made a conveyance of the land some 381 acres and the mills to Jacob Rice of Knowlton, Sussex County N. J., During the time that Mr. Swetland owned the property, he may have made improvements for he was an experienced mill man.

In 1817 Mr. Rice sold 100 acres of this land, adjoining the township line to John Rice. He also sold in 1818, ten acres to James Luce. One acre at the forks of the road near the Conyngham place he sold May 31, 1820 to William C. Hageman, who was a tailor and for years a justice of the township. In 1825, Abraham Orr purchased one acre opposite the saw mill. John P. Rice obtained a deed for five acres in 1828, which included the site of the woolen mill, and in 1832 he purchased ten acres more. Dr. James R. Lewis purchased his homestead of twenty acres in 1833 and began the practice of medicine, being the first physician over the mountain.

Jacob Rice[†] improved the mills, and some years after he purchased the property established a general store, a little below his grist mill. This store building stood nearly on the site of the present American store. The old Rice homestead stood a little above. These buildings were burned down years ago but the foundation of the residence still remains. In July, 1826, this store was conducted by the firm of Rice and Cook, but a year later it was owned by Jacob Rice. In 1838, Isaac Rice conducted this store and he continued there for many years. In 1859 a store was run at Trucksville by J. P. Rice and Mr. Holcomb.

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[*] William Trux or Trucks, was born in Connecticut, and was a resident of Kingston Township in 1796. During his residence here he was a justice of the peace, served on the proprietors committee, and was a leader of public affairs. He, was perhaps, the leading and most progressive citizen in the territory over the mountain. There is now however, no representative of the family in this section.

[†] Rev. Jacob Rice, was born June 30, 1783 at Knowlton, Sussex County, N. J., and died December 18, 1858. He married Sarah Cook born March 27, 1785, died October 9, 1863. He was a local preacher of the Methodist Church and one of the most prominent citizens of Kingston Townshp. His children were: 1. Rev. John, a local preacher born August 5, 1805; died July 26, 1886, married Sally Ann Kunkle, born 1807, died October 27, 1886; married second June 2, 1867, Polly, widow of his brother Asa C. Rice: 2. Margaret, married October 24, 1834 Lyman Mumford; 3. Levi C., born June 28, 1810, died September 6, 1880, married Elzabeth Carle, born March 27, 1816, died June 27, 1885, and had a son Wilbur F., born August 16, 1834, died April 24, 1915; 4. Isaac, born May 23, 1812, married January 24, 1837, Ellen Pugh, born October 6, 1816, died March 28, 1840, married second November 26, 1840, Prudence F. Foster, who died January 2, 1867; married third Mrs. Polly Pierce Payne, born June 2, 1810, died November 4, 1896, widow of Bester Payne; 5. Asa C., born July 15, 1816, died March 3, 1862; 6. Mary Ann, born February 1, 1819, married Judge James Clark; 7. Sarah Caroline, married Dr. Joel J. Rogers, born March 4, 1818, died March 21, 1902; 8. Rev. Charles Lane, born October 22, 1827, died May 29, 1903, married Ann Louise Wells.

The carding mill was either erected by John P. Rice individually or in partnership with William W. Kirkendall. In March, 1827, they advertised a new carding machine near the mills and store of Jacob Rice. At that time, the Trucksville section was called Branchville; but on January 2, 1828, a post-office was established under the name of Trucksville, with Jacob Rice as postmaster.

In the month of September 1827, a largely attended Methodist camp meeting was held on Mr. Rice's farm not far from his mills.

In 1829, Jacob Rice was running the carding mill and he advertised it as a fulling mill. In 1851, the business was conducted by Rice and Watt, who advertised wool carding and cloth dressing. This carding mill finally developed into a woolen factory, and quite an extensive business was carried on for years. The last man to operate it was David Williams. It stood just below the bridge on the county road, and was equipped with a carding machine, spinning machines, looms and cloth dressing machines. Yarn and different kinds of cloth were made, and during its prosperous years quite a large number of hands were employed. It was run by water power obtained from a dam which stood above the bridge. The building was converted into a rug factory by Mr. Goss, and run as such for a number of years. It was torn down, about twenty years ago by A. W. Mahoney, who purchased the property. The old road leading to Carverton started at a point just opposite the woolen mill and went over the hill.

About 1835, the Rices erected a tannery along the creek near where the Johnson store now stands. Ira Carle was in partnership with Mr. Rice in the tannery prior to 1838, and at the time of the Civil War, it was conducted by Captain Patrick DeLacy.

On the site of the property, now owned by Archie Woolbert, Isaac Rice erected a plaster and chop mill. The water for this mill was obtained from a dam across the creek, opposite the present residence of James D. Perrigo. In October 1856, Isaac Rice advertised, for sale, the tannery, plaster mill and chopping mill at Trucksville. In later years, this plaster and chop mill was operated by Henry M. Hageman.

The John P. Rice residence, one of the oldest buildings in Trucksville stands on the county road above the site of the woolen mill, and opposite the present residence of E. G. Besteder. Levi Rice lived on the site of what was later known as the Bulford place. James Patterson was the first blacksmith, and his shop stood opposite the upper bridge. The Jacob Delay house stood near the Lehigh Valley station and opposite the Dr. Lewis residence. The Trucksville school house was located near the W. D. Sutton farm house, on the Kingston side of the township line.

The Shavertown* section was unsettled in early times. Some sixty-five years ago Ziba Rice built a saw mill there. The opening of the mines in the valley and the growth of population stimulated trade, and a number of butchers located there, including Theron Ferguson and B. P. Kirkendall. From the fact that a number of slaughter houses were located along the creek, the place was called Bloody Run.

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*PHILIP SHAVER, said to have been born near Vienna, Austria, came here from New Jersey in 1804 and first located at Forty Fort, where he resided until 1813, when he removed to what was then Kingston Township and is now Dallas. He owned about a thousand acres of land and engaged in lumbering and farming. He and his numerous family occupied that section of Dallas and Kingston Townships near the town line, and gave their name to the present village of Shavertown. Philip Shaver was born in 1762, and died November 7, 1826, married Mary Ann Workizer, born 1771, died January 27, 1828, and their children were: I. John P., born 1789, died July 1, 1871, married Sarah D. Montayne, born 1797, died May 8, 1862, and their children were: Philip; Betsey married Isaac Nulton; Joseph born March 15, 1818, who married first Jane Allen and their children were, F. A., Joseph C., Isaac N., William H., Elmer B., and Ralph A. Joseph Shaver married second Mrs. Mary S. Snyder, (nee Bartron) and their children were, Scott L., Maggie R., and John B.; Sarah died young, Polly married James B. Drake, Julia married Joseph Neyhart; Washington; Emily married Reuben Frantz; Lovisa married John B. Kitchen; John; Joshua; Jacob and Franklin. II. Peter, and his children were: Betsey; Mary; Erastus; Rachel; Charles; Sarah and Ellen; III. William born 1794, died September 20, 1852, and his children were: Mary; Charles; Philip; Filinda; Asa; Betsey; Jackson; Ira; Elsie; Lucinda; Jerusha; Olive; Oliver; Perry; IV. George born May 30, 1802, died September 11, 1871, married Rachel VanCampen, born 1801, died February 15, 1871 and their children were: Elizabeth; Caroline married Nathaniel Keim; Elias; Margaret; Swetland; Madison; George; Rachel, and Anna; V. Asa, born 1808, died September 8, 1878, married Rachel Ramsey, born 1805, died August 8, 1862, and their children were; Miles; William; Ira; Lewis; James; Lucinda married Abel Perrigo, Elliott; and Sharps; VI. James, born May 5, 1801, died November 19, 1877, married Lovisa Montayne, born June 3, 1804, died March 19, 1877, and their children were: William; Nathan; Hester; Ann, married ———— Bishop; Wesley; James; Almira married George T. Kirkendall; Jared; Daniel; Asa; Joseph; John; Jesse; Eliza married Elias Holcomb, and Fletcher; VII. Betsey married David Munson, and their children were, Philip, Walter, Asa, Mary, Ann, George and Charles.

The officers of Kingston Township under Pennsylvania are given below.

1787

Samuel Finch, Constable.

1788

Hezekiah Roberts and John Hageman, Overseers of the Poor.
John Dorrance and Benjamin Smith, Supervisors.
Lawrence Myers and Philip Myers, Innkeepers.

1789

Abel Pierce and John Hageman, Overseers of the Poor.
John Dorrance and Benjamin Smith, Supervisors.
John Hageman and Philip Myers, Innholders.

1790

John Allen, Constable.
Lawrence Myers and Philip Myers, Innholders.

1791

Hallet Gallup, Constable.

Lawrence Myers and William Slocum, Supervisors, Overseers, and Fence Viewers.

1792

Hallet Gallup and Isaac D. Tripp, Constables.
Abel Peirce and Nathaniel Landon, Overseers of the Poor.
Lawrence Myers and William Slocum, Supervisors.

1793

Philip Myers and Peregrine Jones, Innkeepers.

1794

David Perkins, Innkeeper.

1795

John Horton, Constable.
Philip Jackson and Oliver Pettebone, Supervisors of Highways.
Nathaniel Landon and Philip Jackson, Overseers of Poor.
Oliver Pettebone, Appraiser.

1796

Thomas Horton, Constable.
Benjamin Carpenter and Abel Peirce, Supervisors of Highways.
Benjamin Carpenter and Abel Peirce, Overseers of Poor.
Hallet Gallup and Martin Smith, Innkeepers.

1797

Thomas Horton, Constable.
Benjamin Carpenter and William Trucks, Supervisors and Overseers.
Philip Jackson, David Perkins and Martin Smith, Innkeepers.

1798

Thomas Horton, Constable.
Comfort Shaver and Daniel Hoyt, Supervisors and Overseers.
Philip Jackson and John Gore, Fence Viewers.

N. Denison, B. Dorrance, O. Pettebone, and B. Smith, Freeholders and Abel Yarrington, Martin Smith and Philip Myers, Innkeepers.

1799

Thomas Horton, Constable.
Comfort Shaver and Benjamin Dorrance, Supervisors and Overseers.
Andrew Bennet, Fence Viewer.
Samuel Landon, Appraiser of Damages.

Nathan Denison, Nathaniel Landon, Benjamin Smith, and William Trucks, Freeholders.

Philip Myers and Abel Yarrington, Tavernkeepers.

1800

Thomas Horton, Constable.
John Tuttle and Oliver Pettebone, Supervisors and Overseers.
Elisha Atherton and Samuel Brees, Fence Viewers and Appraisers.
N. Denison, Daniel Hoyt, Benjamin Smith, Freeholders.

1801

Aaron Perkins, Constable; Joseph Tuttle and O. Pettebone, Supervisors and Overseers; P. Pettebone and Joseph Swetland, Fence Viewers; Daniel Hoyt, Nathan Denison and Benjamin Smith, Freeholders; Philip Myers, Philip Jackson and David Perkins, Tavern keepers.

1802

Philip Jackson, Constable; Oliver Pettebone and John Tuttle, Supervisors and Overseers; Samuel Brees and Elisha Atherton, Fence Viewers; Benjamin Smith, Daniel Hoyt, Nathan Denison, Freeholders.

1803

Philip Jackson, Constable; Belding Swetland and William Trucks, Supervisors and Overseers; Samuel Breese and Elisha Atherton, Fence Viewers; Nathan Denison, Daniel Hoyt, Benjamin Smith, Solomon Chapin, Freeholders; Philip Jackson, Philip Myers, David Perkins, Naphtali Hurlbut, Innkeepers.

1804

Philip Jackson, Constable; Belding Swetland and William Trucks, Supervisors and Overseers; Samuel Brees and Elisha Atherton, Fence Viewers; Nathan Denison, Benjamin Smith, Oliver Pettebone, John Tuttle, Freeholders; Philip Myers, Philip Jackson, David Perkins, Tavern keepers.

1805

Thomas Patterson, Constable; Lawrence Myers, John Tuttle, Supervisors and Overseers; Samuel Breese, Elisha Atherton, Fence Viewers; Nathan Denison, Oliver Pettebone, Daniel Hoyt, Benjamin Smith, Freeholders; Philip Myers, Philip Jackson, David Perkins, Tavern keepers.

1806

Stephen Hollister, Constable; Oliver Pettebone, Benjamin Carpenter, Supervisors; Lawrence Myers, John Tuttle, Overseers; Philip Myers, Samuel Breese, Fence Viewers; Nathan Denison, Gilbert Carpenter, Elisha Atherton, Daniel Hoyt, Freeholders.

1807

Stephen Hollister, Constable; John Tuttle, Oliver Pettebone, Supervisors; John Tuttle, Elijah Shoemaker, Overseers; Daniel Hoyt, Benjamin Smith, Fence Viewers; Benjamin Carpenter, Benjamin Dorrance, Daniel Hoyt, Freeholders.

1808

Absalom Roberts, Constable; Elijah Shoemaker, Benjamin Dorrance, Supervisors; John Tuttle, Daniel Hoyt, Overseers; Elisha Atherton, John Tuttle, Fence Viewers; Elisha Atherton, Benjamin Smith, Daniel Hoyt, Joseph Swetland, Freeholders.

1809

Absalom Roberts, Constable; Elijah Shoemaker, William Trucks, Supervisors; Elisha Atherton, Samuel Breese, Fence Viewers; Solomon Chapin, Elisha Atherton, Oliver Pettebone, Lazarus Denison, Freeholders.

1810

Absalom Roberts, Constable; Elijah Shoemaker, Oliver Pettebone, Supervisors; Rev. Ard Hoyt, Jacob Bedford, Overseers; Elisha Atherton, Captain Benjamin Smith, Fence Viewers; Lazarus Denison, Elisha Atherton, Solomon Chapin, Charles Chapman, Freeholders.

1811

James Gridley, Constable; Lazarus Denison, Fisher Gay, Supervisors; Lazarus Denison, Henry Buckingham, Overseers; John Gore, Elisha Atherton, Fence Viewers.

1812

James Gridley, Constable; Charles Chapman, Fisher Gay, Supervisors; Henry Buckingham, Philip Myers, Overseers; Daniel Hoyt, E. Shoemaker, Fence Viewers; Jacob Bedford, Jacob Taylor, Elias Hoyt, Absalom Roberts, Freeholders.

1813

James Gridley, Constable; Christian Miller, Frederick Atherholt, Supervisors; Fisher Gay, Malachi Shoemaker, Fence Viewers; Samuel Breese, Benjamin Dorrance, Poormasters; Lazarus Denison, Daniel Hoyt, Belding Swetland, Oliver Pettebone, Auditors; George Taylor, Adam Shafer, Archippus Parrish, Oliver Helme, Philip Myers, Tavernkeepers.

1814

Absalom Roberts, Constable; Oliver Pettebone, George Taylor, Supervisors; Henry Buckingham, Samuel Breese, Fence Viewers; Philip Myers, David Perkins, Overseers of Poor; Daniel Hoyt, Fisher Gay, Lazarus Denison, Elisha Atherton, Auditors; David Gauss, Philip Myers, George Taylor, Tavern keepers.

1816

Thomas Bird, Constable; George Taylor, Abram Parrish, Supervisors; Aaron Dean, Christopher G. Oehmig, Poormasters; Fisher Gay, Benjamin Dorrance, Lazarus Denison, Elias Hoyt, Freeholders; Philip Myers, Andrew Bennet, Tavernkeepers.

1817

Thomas Bird, Constable; Oliver Pettebone, George Taylor, Supervisors; Samuel Shoemaker, Daniel Hoyt, Overseers of Poor; Philip Myers, Samuel Breese, Lazarus Denison, Elias Hoyt, Freeholders; Elijah Shoemaker, James Perkins, Fence Viewers; George Taylor, Lot Breese, Tavern keepers.

1818

Thomas Bird, Constable; John Sharp, Samuel Breese, Supervisors; Elias Hoyt, Joseph Tuttle, Overseers; Philip Myers, Harris Jenkins, George Taylor, Tavern keepers.

1819

Orr Scovell, Constable; Naphtali Hurlbut, Samuel Brees, Supervisors; David Perkins, Daniel Hoyt, Poormasters; William Swetland, Joseph Tuttle, Elias Hoyt, Philip Myers, Freeholders; Harris Jenkins, Richard Newman, Fence Viewers; Harris Jenkins, Philip Myers, George Taylor, Andrew Bennet, Tavern keepers.

1820

Orr Scovell, Constable; Naphtali Hurlbut, Abram Goodwin, Supervisors; John Sharps, Jacob I. Shoemaker, Poormasters; Elias Hoyt, Benjamin Dorrance, Joseph Tuttle, William Swetland, Freeholders; Aaron Perkins, Benjamin Dorrance, Elijah Shoemaker, Fence Viewers; Philip Myers, Town clerk; William C. Johnson, Philip Myers, George Taylor, Naphtali Hurlbut, Ebenezer Parrish, Tavern keepers.

1821

Orr Scovell, Constable; Richard Bird, Abraham Goodwin, Supervisors; John Sharp, Philip Myers, Poormasters; Fisher Gay, Elias Hoyt, Pierce Butler, John Smith, Freeholders; Elijah Shoemaker, D. Woodward, Fence viewers; Harris Jenkins, Philip Myers, Tavern keepers.

1822

William C. Johnson, Constable; Fisher Gay, Andrew Raub, Supervisors; Samuel Breese, Ziba Hoyt, Poormasters; Lazarus Denison, Elias Hoyt, Elisha Atherton, Philip Myers, Freeholders; William C. Johnson, Naphtali Hurlbut, Philip Myers, Harris Jenkins, Tavern keepers.

1823

William C. Johnson, Constable; John Gore, Jr., George Amey, Supervisors; John Bennet, John Smith, Poormasters; William Swetland, Lazarus Denison, Benjamin Dorrance, Elias Hoyt, Freeholders; Isaac Shoemaker, Jacob Sharps, Lazarus Denison, William Swetland, Fence viewers; William Swetland, Town clerk; William C. Johnson, Philip Myers, Harris Jenkins, Jacob Shoemaker, Tavern keepers.

1824

William C. Johnson, Constable; George M. Albright, John Breese, Supervisors; Elisha Atherton, Pierce Butler, Poormasters; Benjamin Dorrance, Elias Hoyt, William Swetland, Lazarus Denison, Freeholders; William Carlisle, John Aliment, Fence viewers; John Donley, Town clerk; Naphtali Hurlbut, Jacob I. Shoemaker, Tavern keepers.

1825

William C. Johnson, Peter Snyder, Constables; G. M. Albright, Erastus Hill, Supervisors; Levi Hoyt, Henry Hice, Poormasters; Samuel Carver, Fisher Gay, Elias Hoyt, Joshua Pettebone, Freeholders; Stephen Wilson, John W. Little, Fence viewers; Philip Myers, Town Clerk; Philip Myers, Stephen Wilson, Jacob I. Shoemaker, James Jenkins, Tavern keepers; Benjamin Dorrance, William Swetland, John Bennet, School men.

1826

David Good, Constable; Ziba Hoyt, Erastus Hill, Supervisors; William Swetland, John Gore, Poormasters; Elias Hoyt, Benjamin Dorrance, Lazarus Denison, Alvah C. Phillips, Freeholders; Oliver Pettebone, Philip Myers, Fence viewers; Alvah C. Phillips, Town Clerk; Philip Myers, Tavern keeper.

1827

David Goodwin, Constable; Ziba Hoyt, Joseph Tuttle, Supervisors; William Swetland, Jacob Rice, Poormasters; William Swetland, Samuel Breese, Elias Hoyt, John Sharps, Freeholders; Jacob Sharps, Isaac Shoemaker, Fence viewers; Alvah C. Phillips, Town clerk; Harris Jenkins, John Sax, John Perkins, Philip Myers, Tavern keepers.

1828

David Goodwin, Constable; Fisher Gay, Isaac Carpenter, Supervisors; Harris Jenkins, Andrew Raub, Poormasters; Elias Hoyt, Benjamin Dorrance, A. C. Phillips, John Perkins, Freeholders; Isaac Shoemaker, Jacob Sharps, Fence viewers; A. C. Phillips, Town Clerk; Harris Jenkins, John Perkins, Philip Myers, Tavern keepers.

1829

Thomas Carkhuff, Constable; Fisher Gay, Levi Hoyt, Supervisors; Andrew Raub, Joseph Tuttle, Poormasters; Benjamin Dorrance, Elias Hoyt, Erastus Hill, Alvah C. Phillips, Freeholders; Jacob Sharps, Elijah Shoemaker, Fence viewers; Alvah C. Phillips, Clerk; John Perkins, Philip Myers, John Sax, Tavern keepers.

1830

Thomas Carkhuff, Constable; Levi Hoyt, Joseph Montayne, Supervisors; Joseph Tuttle, Ezra Hoyt, Poormasters; Elias Hoyt, Alvah C. Phillips, Samuel Carver, Freeholders; Philip Myers, Jacob Sharps, Fence Viewers; Alvah C. Phillips, Clerk; Jacob I. Shoemaker, John Sax, John Perkins, Samuel Breese, Jr., Philip Myers, Tavern keepers.

1831

W. W. Kirkendall, Constable; Jacob Rice, Samuel Carver, Supervisors; Lazarus Denison, Ezra Hoyt, Poormasters; James Jenkins, Auditor; Alvah C. Phillips, Clerk; Jacob I. Shoemaker, John Perkins, Jesse Crisman, Philip Myers, John Sax, Tavern keepers.

1832

Wheeler W. Kirkendall, Constable; Isaac Carpenter, John Johnson, Supervisors; John W. Little, John Perkins, Poormasters; Benjamin Dorrance, Auditor; Samuel Lafrance, John W. Little, Fence viewers; Philip Myers, Oliver Helme, John Perkins, Platt Hitchcock, Henry Breese, Tavern keepers.

1833

James Seagraves, Constable; Oliver Helme, John Hunter, Supervisors; John Perkins, John W. Little, Poormasters; Fisher Gay, Auditor; Andrew Raub, William Hicks, Fence viewers; Oliver Helme, Henry Breese, John Perkins, Platt Hitchcock, Tavern keepers.

1834

James Seagraves, Constable; Oliver Helme, John Hunter, Supervisors; Fisher Gay, Elijah Loveland, Poormasters; John P. Rice, Auditor; Preston Gay, Jacob Sharps, Fence viewers; A. C. Phillips, Clerk; Jacob I. Shoemaker, John Perkins, James Jenkins, Oliver Helme, Tavern keepers; Elias Hoyt, Henry Breese, School Inspectors.

1835

James Seagraves, Constable; Erastus Hill, Anson Atherton, James H. Williamson, Supervisors; William Hancock, Auditor; A. C. Phillips, Sharp D. Lewis, School Directors; William Swetland, Treasurer; A. C. Phillips, Clerk; John Perkins, Oliver Helme, William A. Richards, Jacob Seager, Innkeepers.

1836

John Heft, Constable; James H. Williamson, Supervisor; William Swetland, Auditor; John Bennet, John Gore, Jr., School Directors; John P. Rice, Clerk; Jacob I. Shoemaker, John Perkins, Jacob Seagar, David P. Levan, Francis Frank, Innkeepers.

1837

David Laphy, Constable; Reuben Holgate, Supervisor; Isaac C. Shoemaker, Poormaster; Jacob Atherholt, Auditor; James R. Lewis, Alvah C. Phillips, School Directors; Jacob I. Shoemaker, Isaac Carpenter, Frederick Penney, Jacob Sager, John Perkins, Innkeepers.

1838

No officers returned. J. I. Shoemaker, Frederick Penney, John Perkins, Jacob Sager, Innkeepers.

1839

James Seagraves, Constable; Hiram Montayne, Joshua Pettebone, Supervisors; Elijah Shoemaker, Auditor; John Breese, Noah Pettebone, Ziba Hoyt, School Directors; John P. Rice, Clerk; Elisha Atherton, James Hughes, Christian Atherholt, Overseers of Poor; Alexander C. Shafer, John Worden, Alfred Brace, Jacob Sager, Innkeepers.

1840

James Seagraves, Constable; Joshua Pettebone, Erastus Hill, Supervisors; Daniel Harris, Auditor; Charles Kishpaw, A. C. Phillips, Isaac Rice, School Directors; George Shoemaker, Poormaster; A. C. Shaver, Jacob Sager, Oliver Helme, Alfred Brace, Innkeepers.

1841

W. H. Ward, Constable; J. P. Rice, Supervisor; E. Hoyt, Auditor; H. Denison, T. F. Atherton, J. Bennet, School Directors; C. C. Skeer, Clerk;

Inspector election Jabez Carver; P. Hitchcock, Judge of election, Pierce Butler; Assessor, Reuben Jones; Justices of the peace, John Johnston, D. Perkins; Benjamin Stroh, J. I. Shoemaker, Jacob Sager, O. Helme, Innkeepers.

1842

William H. Ward, Constable; Fisher Gay, John P. Rice, Supervisors; Hiram Denison, Auditor; Jacob Heft, William C. Reynolds, School Directors; Pierce Butler, Treasurer; J. K. Jenkins, Clerk; Erastus Hill, Joshua Pettebone, Inspectors of Election; M. F. Myers, Judge of Election; Anson Atherton, Assessor; Ezra Breese, Isaac Rice, Poormasters; James Jenkins, Oliver Helme, Richard Gunton, J. I. Shoemaker, Innkeepers.

1843

Hiram Montayne, Constable; Noah Pettebone, Fisher Gay, Supervisors; Benjamin Needham, Judge of Election; Stephen P. Hill, Pierce Butler, Inspectors of Election; Charles Dorrance, Auditor; William Swetland, William Hancock, School Directors; Elisha Atherton, Clerk; Ziba Hoyt, Assessor; William Hancock, Ezra Breese, Overseers of Poor; Benjamin Stroh, A. M. Jeffords, Oliver Helme, Innkeepers.

1844

M. H. Myers, Judge of Election; H. Denison, James Atherton, Inspectors of Election; H. Montayne, Constable; N. Pettebone, John Breese, Supervisors; Elias Hoyt, Auditor; L. Ketcham, Andrew Miller, School Directors; E. Atherton, Clerk; J. C. Shoemaker, Clerk; Ezra Hoyt, John Breese, Overseers of Poor; Lewis H. Shaler, Joseph Snyder, Oliver Helme, Jacob I. Shoemaker, Innkeepers.

1845

Anson Atherton, Justice of the Peace; Benjamin Needham, George Shoemaker, Inspectors of Election; Fisher Gay, Judge of Election; Elijah Loveland, Assessor; Hiram Montayne, Constable; Elijah Shoemaker, A. C. Shafer, School Directors; Madison F. Myers, Clerk; Charles D. Shoemaker, Auditor; James Atherton, Treasurer; Ziba Hoyt, Henry Hice, Overseers; Pierce Smith, Oliver Helme, Supervisors; A. M. Jeffords, J. I. Shoemaker, Conrad Geets, Alfred Brace, Innkeepers.

1846

Henry Woodhouse, Justice of the Peace; Pierce Smith, Philo Bowers, Inspectors of Election; Ziba Hoyt, Judge of Election; Hiram Johnson, Assessor; James Seagraves, Erastus Hill, Supervisors; Dauiel Root, Constable; Charles D. Shoemaker, Robinson Boyd, School Directors; George Coray, Clerk; Charles Dorrance, Auditor; John Sharpe, John Bennet, Poormasters; Alfred Brace, Jacob I. Shoemaker, Owen Ehret, Oliver Helme, Innkeepers.

1847

Platt Hitchcock, Isaac C. Shoemaker, Inspectors of Election; Hiram Denison, Judge of Election; Reuben Joues, Assessor; John Sharps, Maurice Gibler, Supervisors; Daniel Roat, Constable; Samuel Pugh, Henry Woodhouse, School Directors; George Shoemaker, Clerk; Elias Hoyt, Auditor; Giles Slocum, Noah Pettebone, Poormasters; Alfred Brace, Owen Ehret, Frank Helme, Anthony Smith, Jacob I. Shoemaker, Innkeepers.

1848

Erastus Hill, Elisha Atherton, Inspectors of Election; Abram Goodwin, Judge of Election; John Breese, Assessor; Maurice Gibler, John Johnston, Supervisors; Daniel Roat, Constable; Anson Atherton, John Johnston, School Directors; A. H. Reynolds, Clerk; Payne Pettebone, Auditor; John Bennet, Treasurer; William Hancock, Samuel Heft, Poormasters; J. I. Shoemaker, Alfred Brace, Frank Helme, Theodore P. Shirley, Innkeepers.

1849

George Reese, Thomas Slocum, Inspectors of Election; John Johnston, Judge of Election; Reuben Jones Assessor; Maurice Gibler, T. G. Lafrance, Supervisors, John Bryant, Constable; F. B. Blakeslee, George W. Peck, School Directors; G. T. Pringle, Clerk; Anson Atherton, Auditor; Charles Hughes, John Myers, Poormasters.

1850

Richard Hutchins, Assessor; Elijah Shoemaker, Auditor; George Pringle, Clerk; John Bryant, Constable; Samuel Heft, Reuben Marcy, Inspectors of Election; Noah Pettebone, Judge of Election; John Breese, Charles Smith, Overseers of Poor; Almon Church, John Breese, School Directors; Maurice Gibler, T. G. Lafrance, Supervisors; Reuben Jones, Justice of the Peace; Henry Stroh, Alfred Brace, Frank Helme, J. R. Shaver, Innkeepers.

1851

William H. Ward, Assessor; Payne Pettebone, Auditor; Charles Smith, Clerk; Daniel Roat, Constable; Samuel Hoyt, Ezra Breese, Inspectors; Pierce Smith, Judge of Election; Charles Dorrance, Hiram Denison, Overseers of Poor; James W. Abbott, Anson Atherton, School Directors; Maurice Gibler, Charles Scovell, Supervisors; Henry Woodhouse, Justice of the Peace; Alfred Brace, J. N. Shaver, Henry Peters, Frank Helme, Innkeepers.

1852

John Johnston, Assessor; Elias Hoyt, Auditor; Reuben Jones, Clerk; Daniel Roat, Constable; T. M. Atherton, Hiram Denison, Inspectors; Henry Woodhouse, Judge of Election; Charles N. Hart, Milton G. Phillips, Overseers of Poor; John Bartholomew, Daniel Gore, School Directors; Charles Scofield, Maurice Gibler, Supervisors; Reuben Jones, Treasurer; A. M. Jeffords, Margaret Stroh, Frank Helme, Alfred Brace, Innkeepers.

1853

John R. Gates, Assessor; James W. Abbott, Auditor; Reuben Jones, Clerk; Daniel Roat, Constable; Anson Church, Daniel Gore, Inspectors; Jesse B. Schooley, Judge of Election; Charles N. Hoyt, Milton G. Phillips, Overseers of Poor; John Breese, Madison F. Myers, School Directors; Charles Scoville, Maurice Gibler, Supervisors; Margaret Stroh, Alfred Brace, Holden Tripp, Frank Helme, A. M. Jefford, Innkeepers.

1854

John Anderson, Assessor; Payne Pettebone, John Bennet, Madison F. Myers, Auditors; Reuben Jones, Clerk; John Bartholomew, William H. Ward, Inspectors of Election; Robison Boyd, Judge of Election; John Gay, Samuel Pringle, Overseers of Poor; J. W. Abbott, Anson Atherton, School Directors; Charles Scoville, Maurice Gibler, Supervisors; Frank Helme, A. Brace, Jared Lillie, Holden Tripp, Margaret Stroh, Innkeepers.

1855

Reuben Jones, Justice of the Peace; Elisha Harris, Henry Polen, Inspectors of Election; Philo Bowers, Judge of Election; Isaac Rice, Assessor; William C. Falkner, Wesley D. Saxton, Supervisors; Daniel Roat, Constable; John P. Rice, James B. Drake, Samuel Hughes, School Directors; Reuben Jones, Clerk; Isaac S. Phillips, Thomas Slocum, Auditors; Frank Helme, George W. Barber, Poormasters; Frank Helme, Holden Tripp, Innkeepers.

1856

Henry Woodhouse, Justice of the Peace; William Henry, Almon Church, Inspectors of Election; Philo Bowers, Judge of Election; Pierce Smith, Assessor; John Johnston, Jacob Atherholt, Supervisors; Daniel Roat, Constable; M. F. Myers, Henry Polen, School Directors; Reuben Jones, Clerk; Thomas Slocum, Auditor; Z. R. Hoyt, G. W. Barber, Poormasters; Frank Helme, Holden Tripp, Abram Clearwater, Innkeepers.

1857

T. Woodhouse, Bester Payne, Inspectors of Election; Robison Boyd, Judge of Election; A. J. Pringle, Assessor; M. B. Daley, James Van Loon, Supervisors; John W. Harding, Constable; C. D. Shoemaker, Samuel Reese, School Directors; Reuben Jones, Clerk; M. F. Myers, Auditor; John Robbins, Treasurer; Z. B. Hoyt, G. W. Barber, Poormasters; P. B. Wambold, Abraham Clearwater, Holden Tripp, Innkeepers.

1858

William C. Hageman, Justice of the Peace; Henry Polen, Thomas Woodhouse, Inspectors of Election; Henry Woodhouse, Judge of Election; Hiram Denison, Assessor; James Van Loon, M. B. Dailey, Supervisors; D. B. Polen, Constable; A. M. Jefford, William Swetland, School Directors; John Breese, Clerk; James B. Drake, Auditor; R. McD. Shoemaker, Sperring Davis, Poormasters.

1859

Justice of the Peace, M. G. Phillips; Assessor, G. R. Reilay; Supervisors, Daniel Van Scoy, James Van Loon; Constable, James B. Drake; School Directors, Henry Polen, N. W. Burgess; Auditor, Isaac Rice; Poormasters, R. McD. Shoemaker, Almon Church.

The following have been elected officers since 1860, and the year when first elected only is given:

Constables: James B. Drake, 1860; Robeson Boyd 1864; E. D. Walker 1864; Julius Mulford 1867; C. F. Terry 1868; Daniel Labar 1870; T. J. Casterline 1873; Daniel Labar 1874; Charles Hawley 1876; C. T. Ford 1877; William Flanigan 1878; C. H. Vaughn 1879; S. A. Morton 1880; S. H. Lake 1881; William Bradley 1881; John McDermott 1887; John Hogan 1888; Joseph Clark 1889; John Corby 1891; G. Carr 1892; Charles Burns 1897; James McManus, William Messon, George Randall, Addison Woolbert; Francis McCawley 1915; W. McCole 1919; Thomas R. Evans 1923.

Assessors: William C. Schooley 1860; William S. Shoemaker 1861; Stephen J. Sharps 1862; E. W. Abbott 1863 and 1864; James Van Loon 1865; John Anderson 1866; William I. Shoemaker 1867; George Courtright 1868; John Bartholomew 1869; John D. Hoyt 1870; James M. Lewis 1874; William L. Rice 1876; George M. Starke 1879; James Anderson 1881; S. J. Sharps 1883; Fisher Gay 1884; Noah Pettebone 1885; A. J. Frear 1886; L. R. Shafer 1888; J. D. Cochrane 1889; C. H. Burgess 1891; T. Quinn 1892; C. O'Keefe 1898; John Connor 1904; A. M. Anderson 1906.

Supervisors: James Van Loon, Martin B. Dailey 1860; Ebenezer Gay and James Seagraves 1861; Martin B. Dailey 1862; Miller Montayne 1863; Jacob Sanders 1864; E. W. Abbott, A. Hoover 1865; P. Pettebone, H. Johnson 1866; E. Harris 1867; Thomas Keller, Jacob Sanders 1868; Charles Dorrance, George H. Rice, James B. Drake, John Hay, A. H. Holcomb 1869; George H. Rice, William S. Shomaker 1870; John J. Breese, John Sharps 1872; Joseph Welter 1873; Stephen Pettebone 1874; Samuel Atherholt 1876; Jacob Kresge 1877; David Culver, Daniel Sullivan 1878; James E. Sanders 1879; Samuel Atherholt 1880; James E. Sanders, Samuel Atherholt, Martin Shields, 1881; S. Oakley, D. D. Durand, 1882; Butler Dilley 1883; A. M. Anderson, Miles Connor 1884; M. Rogan 1885; George Courtright, C. Dilcer, John Batterton 1886; John Connor, H. W. Pettebone, Lyman Frantz 1887; J. D. Perrego, Michael Snee 1888; J. P. Edwards, Jacob Hunt 1889; John Cawley, Patrick Callighan 1890; Thomas English, Peter Gill, John Glennon 1891; J. Heidan 1892; Thomas Durkin, Antnony Callahan, 1893; Thomas Lavin 1894; A. M. Woolbert, C. G. Banta, John Martin 1896; Anthony Moran, M. Flanagan 1898; A. W. Harter 1899; G. S. Hughes, Miles Graven 1900; A. P. Shaver, J. D. Cochran 1901; Joseph Bryant, Martin Christenson, Michael Angley; John Youngblood, Anthony Savage 1904; Edward Malarky 1905; T. A. Ferguson, P. H. Heft, John Staub 1906; Adam Stock 1909; Samuel Woolbert, E. L. Saxe, Howard Patten 1913; H. H. Shaver 1917; Nicholas A. Straub 1919; Wesley D. Sutton 1921; Charles Shales 1925; Grover C. Stock 1929.

School Directors: C. D. Shoemaker, Robison Boyd 1860; William Swetland, Isaac Tripp 1861; Henry Woodhouse, Anson A. Church, J. R. Lewis 1862; John D. Hoyt, Thomas Hutchins 1864; Joseph Smith, D. Atherholt 1865; A. Bisher, L. B. Breese 1866; Andrew Lutz, Payne Pettebone, Steuben Jenkins, Levi Howell 1868; George Courtright, Samuel Honeywell, James Patterson, 1869; W. S. Shoemaker 1890; Charles Heft, Frederick Winters 1872; R. R. Frear 1873; Noah Pettebone 1874; Madison Shafer 1875; E. R. Wolfe 1876; S. J. Sharps 1877; William C. Schooley, Calvin Perrin 1878; Ziba B. Rice, Abram Rinker 1879; C. Major 1880; W. C. Schooley, Calvin Perrin 1881; William Moses, A. Rinker, W. L. Rice 1882; J. I. Shoemaker, George Courtright, Frederick Winters 1883; A. W. Roushey 1884; James McNally, A. R. Anderson 1885; Joseph Bryant 1886; John Hayden, Richard Gill, Thomas H. Burns 1887; George W. Dailey, Levi Howell 1888; W. C. Spencer 1889; Thomas M. Jenkins, James D. Perrego 1891; C. Connors, J. Kirkendall 1892; James Coughlin, Philip Gibbons 1893; James Callahan 1895; John McKechnie, B. F. McHugh 1896; John Nixon, Michael Quinn 1897; William Taffe, Patrick Heffron, G. W. Roushey, J. F. Nixon; O. Burgess, Adam Stock, James McAndrew, William C. Roushey, John Martin, Hugh Carlin, John McEnrue, David Hurley, Patrick Graven, H. H. Shaver 1904; Ziba Schooley 1905; Archie Woolbert, W. J. Robbins, J. B. Anderson, J. Heft, A. B. Saxe 1906; H. F. Coon 1907; J. E. Ferguson, I. H. Coursen 1910; G. W. Reynolds, E. G. Besteder 1911; James Gray, Michael Laphy, G. L. Howell 1915; M. E. Keeler 1917; George W. Roushey, F. P. Oberst 1919; George B. Pollock 1921; J. B. Schooley 1923; Howard W. Appleton, Edwin F. Hag, 1925; Herbert H. Hill, G. Wilber Nichols 1927.

Treasurers: James Jenkins 1860; N. Pettebone 1863; A. C. Church 1868; Thomas Hutchins 1869; Merritt Sax 1872; James B. Drake 1877; George H. Greeley 1878; John McKune, Noah Pettebone, John Seabold 1889; W. C. Schooley 1890; A. H. Holcomb 1891; Patrick Heffron 1894; M. McAndrews 1895; M. Shields 1897; Marvin Schooley 1899; Archie Spears 1902; Timothy Connelly, Isaac Coursen.

Poormasters: R. McD. Shoemaker, Almon Church 1860; J. C. Shoemaker, E. W. Abbott 1861; William S. Shoemaker, James Van Loon 1862.

Justices of the Peace: L. S. Walker, C. H. Vaughn, H. C. Edwards, James D. Perrego, John McOwen, Charles McKechnie, George Henderson, Patrick Cullen, Joseph A. Bryant, Asa P. Shaver, J. M. Wheeler, William L. Roushey.

Town Clerks: John Breese 1860; James Harris 1865; John Breese 1867; L. Richmond 1875; John Breese 1875; Steuben Jenkins 1877; James N. Haight 1878; M. B. Bonham 1879; E. W. Abbott 1880; M. Laphy 1882; Michael Curley 1883; H. Martin 1884; John Hurley 1885; O. Frear 1886; Thomas Quinn 1889; S. P. Totten 1890; A. Z. Hazletine 1894; D. B. Gildea 1895; Thomas McGough 1896; Patrick Connelly 1897; Fred Anderson, Edward Hanigan, Patrick O'Leary, Charles Burns.

Auditors: Rufus Carver 1860; John Bartholomew 1861; Charles Dorrance 1862; James P. Atherton, James B. Drake, Thomas Slocum 1866; W. S. Shoemaker 1868; David Munson 1869; James D. Green 1870; Peter Polen 1872; William Hancock 1875; Charles B. Baldwin 1877; Isaac Rice 1879; Fisher Gay 1881; J. T. Welter 1882; John Bartholomew 1883; William Hancock 1884; Levi Howell 1885; Frank Thompson 1886; John Gibbons 1887; James Monighan 1888; Edward Saxe 1889; George Courtright 1890; Isaac Edwards 1891; M. Schooley 1892; A. B. Schooley 1893; John Connors 1894; T. Barrett 1895; Thomas McGoff 1896; J. H. Durkin 1898; W. J. Robbins, John McNey 1900; Z. T. Schooley, W. C. Johnson 1902; F. A. Snyder 1904; C. W. Boston 1906; Amos Saxe 1907; George Roushey 1908; James Anderson 1909; H. M. Patton 1910; Joseph Schooley 1911; S. H. Walters 1913; J. B. Schooley 1915; B. P. Straw 1917; W. Lohman 1919; Charles Palmer 1921; Floyd B. Anderson 1923; Robert Hazleton 1925; S. R. Hemming 1927; Stanley Davis 1929.

CHAPTER XV.

1770—1929

FORTY FORT

First Called Village of Kingston—The Tuttle Mill—The Rose Ferry—And Two Later Ferries—Philip Myers' Tavern—The Tavern of Philip Jackson—Malachi Shoemaker First Store-Keeper—Incorporation of Forty Fort Borough.

The part of Kingston Township, first permanently settled was Forty Fort and of the settlers then, only the families of three have endured during the lapse of ensuing years. These were, Thomas Bennet, Peter Harris and Elijah Shoemaker, and they were the principal original land owners within the limits of the present borough. The other settlers were the occupiers of house lots in the old town plot, and they soon removed to other habitations.

Monument Marking Site of Forty Fort

Peter Harris was the original proprietor of Meadow Lot No. 17 which lies immediately south of Welles street, and he purchased number 18 which adjoins it on the south from Elias Roberts in 1773. This gave him all the land east of the avenue, and between the present Welles street and a point, more than 200 feet south of the Kingston Borough line. By his will, he devised these lots to his daughter Abigail, and they were warranted and patented to her, by the Commonwealth. Abigail Harris married Gideon Church in 1786.

Near the northeast corner of the present cigar factory, and close to the now Rutter avenue was an ancient well and the site of barns, and an old garden was between these barns and the Anson church house, which was undoubtedly the location of the Harris house and the homestead of Gideon Church* and his wife Abigail Harris.

In 1789, Henry Tuttle† purchased one half of Meadow Lot No. 10, and in 1791, the whole of lot No. 11. In the very corner of lot No. 10, on the southerly bank of Abraham's Creek, he erected a grist mill which was running as early as 1796. This well known operation known as Tuttle's mill was continued for many years by the Tuttles. It stood just below the stone bridge, and the Tuttle residence was on the opposite side of the avenue on lot No. 24 of the Third Division. This locality was long known as Tuttletown. George W. Barber* bought of Joseph Tuttle lot No. 24 of the Third Division and lot No. 11 of the Second Division which purchase also included the mill, on April 9, 1839.

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*GIDEON CHURCH, was born at Kent, Connecticut, in June, 1761, the son of Elias Church who was born at Killingly, Connecticut, July 9, 1732, and who came to Kingston Township, his name first appearing on the lists in 1776. His wife Elizabeth Berry of Tolland, Connecticut, was born December 10, 1731, and died October 5, 1775. Their children besides Gideon were: Nathaniel, born at Kent, died April 10, 1781, a private in Captain Samuel Ransom's company; Jonathan remained in Connecticut; Joel born at Kent, killed in the Battle of Wyoming; Joshua born in 1763; Rachel, born December 26, 1765; Josiah, born April 26, 1768; Elmon born at Kent, June 3, 1771, removed to Dallas Township and died about 1830; John said to have gone to Ohio; and Rebecca born at Kingston July 25, 1775. Gideon Church served, in Captain Samuel Ransom's company of Connecticut Volunteers, with the Continental Army. He was a follower of Colonel Franklin and fought at the Battle of Locust Hill in 1784. He is said to have been one of the WildYankee Boys, who under the leadership of Gideon Dudley, captured Colonel Pickering in 1788. He was engaged in all the fighting on the tumultuous frontier from his boyhood until nearly the time of his death in 1793. He left one son, William Church, born August 20, 1791, died March 29, 1864, who farmed the Harris' lands, and was a merchant at Kingston Corners in 1837. He married Lucinda, daughter of Samuel Carver, born August 8, 1793, died June 20, 1848, and their children were: 1. Almon married first Ruth Ann Jenkins and their children were: William James, born February 3, 1837, died November 23, 1851; Mary Elizabeth, born July 17, 1842, died February 22, 1895, married December 19, 1867, to Robert K. Laycock; Steuben Jenkins born October 14, 1847, died 1929, married Jennie A. Scoville; George Almon born August 19, 1856. Almon Church married second Permelia Detrick born July 7, 1820, died October 16, 1880 and they had one daughter Nellie D., who married Dr. W. F. Pier. 2. Addison Carver Church, born July 24, 1814, died January 30, 1860, married Mary Johnston, born November 20, 1813, died March 20, 1890. He was a merchant, justice of the peace and postmaster of Kingston, and his children were: Lucinda, born May 3, 1837, died March 30, 1874, married Dr. George Marsland of New York; and William F., born June 28, 1845, died March 31, 1930, married September 7, 1876 Ann Hoyt Corss, daughter of Rev. C. C. Corss. He was a druggist and postmaster of Kingston. 3. Abigail Atherton, born July 7, 1816, died July 21, 1875, married October 30, 1833, toThomas Campbell Reese. 4. Anson Church, born May 15, 1818, died September 6, 1897, married November 10 1840, Fannie, daughter of Pierce Smith, born July 3, 1822, and their children were: Addison Carver, born September 25, 1841, married December 15, 1868, Deborah, daughter of Andrew Raub, born June 25, 1835; Wealthy Ann born October 31, 1842, married M. F. Mathers; Ada Minerva born November 23, 1846, married November 21, 1866 to Leander Smith; Eunice Celinda born May 28, 1853, married December 10, 1873 to Payne Pettebone. 5. Jabez Carver Church, born April 7, 1822, died May 30, 1899, married Mary Ann Turn, born February 4, 1825, died February 6, 1890, and their children were: Lucinda, born September 14, 1845, married January 3, 1867 to Theodore D. Wolfe of Wyoming; Elizabeth H., born December 2, 1853, married Miles Wesley; Rufus J. C., born July 18, 1857, married Addie Kittle; Almon born August 2, 1859, married Martha Ruggles; Mary Harriet, born May 19, 1862, married, John Barnes.

†HENRY TUTTLE was born in Morris County, N. J., November 24, 1733, and died January 3, 1820. His first wife was Phebe Beach and his second wife, named Mary was born in November 1749 and died September 10, 1820. He served in the War of the Revolution and was a blacksmith by trade. He came to Wyoming Valley about 1785, and soon after his purchase of land erected the grist mill. His children were: 1. Henry Jr., born about 1764, removed to Wysox; 2. Abner; 3. Joseph, born at Rockaway, N. J., January 19, 1772, died in Hanover Township, February 11, 1849. In 1812, he became owner of the grist mill and also ran a tan yard. In 1839, he sold the grist mill property to George Barber of Sussex County, N. J. He was county commissioner in 1833. His first wife Mary Lee, born February 25, 1775, died August 26, 1835, and their children were: Sarah, born April 4, 1793, died April 27, 1869, married Payne Pettebone, married second Mr. Moore and third David Perkins; Hannah; Elizabeth born August 10, 1796, married Paul B. Jennings; Joseph Beach, born June 4, 1798, died October 14, 1877; Jesse, born September 10, 1800, removed to Michigan; 4. John, born in New Jersey in 1767, served in the last years of the Revolution, and married Mary, daughter of Thomas Bennet and their children were: Martha, born February 3, 1790, married Holden Tripp; Mary, born 1791, died May 27, 1858, married Joseph Orr; Henry, born April 3, 1793, died September 21, 1845; Sarah, born December 7, 1794, died February 26, 1872, married

At one time Meadow Lot No. 13 was owned by Thomas Bennet, and he is supposed to have lived for a time on the avenue nearly opposite Owen street. The first Shoemaker house, is said to have been on the site of the present residence of Dr. C. A. Judge. Lieutenant Elijah Shoemaker probably lived there at the time he was killed.

The intent of the original proprietors was that the village of the township was to be at Forty Fort, and the Village of Kingston, as it was called at the time of the Revolution, was laid out with streets six rods wide in the New England style; and there were located the fort, the sign post, the graveyard and the meeting-house. But after the Revolution, the village languished and most of the town lots were used as farm land. It is true that there were a tavern or two, a store and a scattered hamlet; but the people living in the upper part of the township did their business at New Troy, those in the lower part at Kingston Corners, and those over the mountain at Trucksville. Forty Fort was an old place with a great history more than a hundred years ago, and today as you pass up River street, the impression is inevitable that you are in an ancient village. Its seclusion, the many old houses, and its memories give it the air of antiquity.

One of the oldest houses, is the little story and a half structure on the easterly side of River street, now known as No. 31.

Benjamin Jenkins; Elizabeth, born August 29, 1796, died June 11, 1860; John, born August 23, 1800, died January 1, 1860; Phebe, born February 15, 1802, died April 11, 1872; William, born July 30, 1805, married Mary Ingham; Chester, born December 22, 1806, died July 17, 1883, married Mary Ann Shoemaker Baldwin, widow of David Baldwin.

*GEORGE W. BARBER was born in Warren County, N. J., January 2, 1802, son of Jesse and Joanna Barber who settled in Exeter Township in 1817. March 30, 1826, he married Elizabeth Kennedy, born January 6, 1805, died September 14, 1889. Mr. Barber operated the mill for many years but returned to New Jersey where he died August 25, 1883. His children were: Robert Kennedy, born February 16, 1827, died August 6, 1907, married Mary, daughter of Henry Stroh; Thomas, born November 17, 1828, died April 14, 1852; Jesse, born November 25, 1830, died September 7, 1852; Sarah Jane, born October 13, 1832, died March 12 1853; Isaac, born July 12, 1834, died February 19, 1854; Joanna born April 3, 1837, died November 18, 1858; James Kennedy, born July 18, 1839, died June 29, 1905, married Hester K. Martin; Maxwell, born December 2, 1841, died April 27, 1859; Stewart, born December 2, 1841, died April 4, 1862; Charles Denison, born June 17, 1846, died June 25, 1875, married Etta Stewart

Judging by the cornice and the style of architecture, we are led to the conclusion that it was built prior to 1800. It has no particular history and was probably usually occupied by laborers on the neighboring farms.

Many of the town lots were held merely by possession, under title derived from Connecticut owners, or warrants from the Commonwealth, until after 1870, when patents were issued.

On the Gore lot facing the southerly end of the Town Plot, and on River street, in more recent times Frederick Winters lived, for many years. At the southeasterly corner of Rutter and River streets, on lot No. 3 was the home of Jacob Stock. From Rutter avenue to lot No. 11, being town lots from No. 4 to 10 inclusive, was the property of the late Rev. H. H. Welles, with his residence still standing and nearly in the center. Lots 11 and 12 were in the possession of the Culver family for many years, and were finally patented to John M. Culver in 1873. J. C. Tyrell whose wife was a Culver, lived for a long time at the corner of River and Butler streets in the old house still standing.

House lots, Nos. 16 and 17 were purchased by Timothy Rose, early in January 1773, and about that time, he became keeper of a ferry located a little north of his house, which was built on the above lots, between the present Fort and Walnut Streets. A few rods north of this house was the public sign post of Westmoreland. The road to the ferry started at a point on River Street, between the Rose house and the present Walnut Street and led down the bank in a northerly direction to the river. This ferry was in operation during the Revolution, and afforded communication with the fort, to those living in the upper settlements on the east side. It continued in operation until early in the Nineteenth Century, when it was displaced by a ferry, the road to which led from River street along the present southern boundary of the cemetery. This road, partly filled in, is still to be seen. The last man to operate it was Thomas Reese, and the ferry house still standing is located along the ferry road on the bank of the river. About the time this ferry was discontinued, some fifty or sixty years ago, David Culver* started a ferry, which was located a little south of W. T. Pettebone's residence. This continued until some twenty-five years ago.

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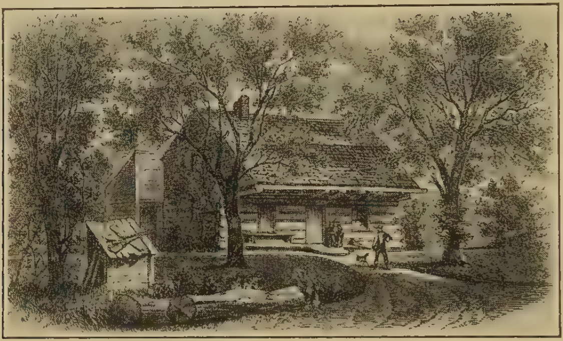
*David Culver was the son of William Culver who was born near Inman's Ferry in Hanover Township, the son of George Culver a native of Connecticut. When a young man he removed to Forty Fort and married Rachel Culver a native of Franklin Township. Their children were: 1. William, born June 3, 1828, married April 15, 1850, Mary A. Crosby, and their children were: Mylert L., born May 15, 1852; Frank; James; Lutisha J., born February

House lot No. 19 was drawn by Solomon Bennet, and probably his father Thomas Bennet lived there at the time of the surrender of Forty Fort, and if so, it was to his cabin built upon it, and a little above the north gate of Forty Fort, that the officers withdrew to arrange and sign the Articles of Capitulation. In 1787, title to this lot was vested in Philip Myers, who was a son-in-law of Thomas Bennet; and on this lot and perhaps partly on lot No. 20, stood, for many years, the old log house known as the Myers house. The older people remember this building, which was last occupied by Gordon Shook. It stood south of the intersection of River and Walnut Streets, and the present hedge running a little south of No. 165 River Street was about the center of the structure. In 1788, Philip Myers*


THE OLD MEYERS HOUSE

15, 1858, married William O. Thomas; 2. David, born August 2, 1832, the well known ferry man, married August 29, 1851 to Mary Ann Wise and their children were: Sarah, born September 21, 1853; Stella, born August 27, 1856, married Walter S. Pettebone; Lewis, born February 11, 1859; Ruth, born July 4, 1861; George W., born November 19, 1863; Frederick and Fanny, born March 15, 1870; Louisa J., born August 8, 1872; 3. John M., born January 28, 1842, served in the Civil War as a member of Company C. 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, married Anna Rennard,born in 1844; 4. Charles Culver, born August 8, 1846, married January 17, 1868, Anna McGarry; 5. Matilda, married J C. Tyrell; 6. Elizabeth, married Hiram Shiffer; 7. Caroline, married George Evans; 8. Oliver, died young; 9. Lewis, died young, 10. Sarah, married a Mr. Bower.

*PHILIP MYERS was born in 1760 and died April 2, 1835. He came to Forty Fort from Frederick County, Maryland in 1785, and married July 15, 1787, Martha Bennet, born January 15, 1763, daughter of Thomas Bennet. Their children were: 1. John, born February 17, 1791, died January 25, 1850, married Sarah Stark, born July 20, 1793, died May 9, 1868, and their children were: Elizabeth born October 31, 1815, died April 29, 1837, married Colonel Anthony H. Emley; Jane, born April 26, 1817; Lawrence, born October 22, 1818, died June 14, 1905; Martha; Harriet, born June 20, 1823, married Michael Eichelberger; John, born October 7, 1824, died November 25, 1847; Henry P., born June 1, 1826, married October 6, 1853, Lucinda R. Church; Charles, born October 25, 1827, died April 10, 1920, married in 1853 to Martha Pettebone; Sarah J., born October 31, 1829, married June 25, 1853 Herman

began keeping a tavern there, which he continued until his death in 1834. From 1809 until about 1840, the elections of Kingston Township were held at this tavern; as were also most of the Proprietors meetings, and many county conventions of the political parties. It was a famous stopping place for the boatmen in early times.

The great bend makes an eddy in the river, long and familiarly known as "The Raft and Ark Eddy". It made a convenient tying place, for the numerous arks loaded with grain from Southern New York, and the great rafts of logs and lumber, being floated to the sea. The liberal patronage of the river-men made the Forty Fort tavern keepers, prosperous men. Directly opposite the end of Ransom Street, between River Street and the Susquehanna was another ancient tavern house, conducted in later days by Henry Stroh*, who purchased it in 1839, from George Shoemaker, it being then described, as bounded "on the

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G. Muller; James M., born April 1, 1831, died October 7, 1864; Ruth Ann, born November 8, 1832, married Benjamin Turner. 2. Lawrence; 3. William removed to Sunbury, Ohio; 4. Thomas was sheriff of Luzerne County 1835 to 1838, and one of the most prominent men of his time. He was a brother-in-law of Governor Packer, having married a sister of the governor's wife and a daughter of Peter W. Vanderbilt. He was a merchant at Kingston Corners for years and lived in the old stone house, but later removed to Williamsport. He donated the land upon which Wyoming Seminary is built, and erected the first Seminary building. 5. Harriet born in 1809, died December 5, 1889, married her cousin Madison F. Myers, son of Michael Myers of Frederick County, Maryland. He died August 2, 1859, and during his life was one of the most prominent and highly respected men of Kingston Township, being at one time Associate Judge of Luzerne County. He was a supporter of Wyoming Seminary and gave the land upon which the Lackawanna depot is erected. Mr. and Mrs. Madison F. Myers were nephew and niece of the first Lawrence Myers and inherited the greater part of his fine farm in the lower part of Kingston, known as "Myers' Delight." Their children were: Miranda who married Charles Steele and removed to Nebraska; Philip T.; Martha A., who married the Honorable Archibald J. Weaver and removed to Falls City Nebraska. She was the mother of Honorable Arthur J. Weaver, the present Governor of Nebraska; Frederick Benham born June 10, 1845 married Naomi A. Mott, died January 16, 1906; William P., married Helen McCarty, removed to Nebraska; 5. Sarah, born September 27, 1792, died March 4, 1867, married Abram Goodwin; 7. Betsey, married a Mr. Locke and was the mother of Martha Locke, a well known early teacher; 8. Mary married Rev. George Peck, D. D., born August 8 1797 at Middlefield, N. Y., died May 20, 1876. She died July 3, 1881. Dr. Peck was one of the most prominent Methodist ministers of his time. He was Presiding Elder of the Wyoming Conference; President of Cazenovia Seminary; Editor of the Methodist Quarterly Review, and the Christian Advocate. Dr. Peck, was the author of several books, among others being "History of Wyoming", and "The Life and Times of George Peck." He was a member of perhaps the most famous family of Methodist ministers in the United States, five of his brothers, two of his sons and several of his nephews having been distinguished preachers. A nephew, Rev. Jonathan Kenyon Peck lived the later years of his life on Wyoming Avenue in Kingston Borough and was the author of the well known biography "Rev. Luther Peck and His Five Sons." The children of George Peck and his wife Mary Myers were: Rev. George M. Peck; Rev. Luther Peck, D. D.; Wilbur F. Peck, M. D.; and a daughter who married Rev J. F. Crane, D. D., and was the mother of Stephen Crane, the famous novelist. Dr. Wilbur F. Peck lived in Forty Fort and had three sons George Peck, born December 12, 1858, who resides in Forty Fort and who with his family are the only descendants of Dr. Peck living there; also two other sons Lee H. and Arthur D., who removed from there.

*HENRY STROH was born February 20, 1792, died November 21, 1851 son of David Stroh, of Hanover Township, born 1762, died 1850. Henry Stroh married first Amy Petty, and second Margaret, born April 15, 1805, died May 28, 1860, daughter of George Kreidler. His children were: Peter, born June, 1817, died December 7, 1891, married Elizabeth Dickover, born December 4, 1817, died January 12, 1908; Sarah married David Nagle; Anna born April 29, 1820, died February 8, 1885, married John Mathers, born November 1, 1813, died June 14, 1890; Christianna married John Fox. The children of Henry Stroh by his second wife were: Mary, married Robert Kennedy Barber; Ruth Gore married Charles Bryant; Laura married George W. Bryant; Elizabeth born 1835 died January 13, 1917, married Barnes Bonham born April 6, 1821, died May 6, 1901; George; Maggie; Henry, born November 25, 1842, died January 17, 1892, married Martha A. Wolfinger.

south by land of Philip Jackson, on the west by Forty Fort main road, on the north by public land on the east by Susquehanna river, containing one acre, being the old tavern stand on the river bank near Philip Jackson's in said township." After the death of Mr. Stroh, his widow Margaret Stroh conducted it for many years.

Very early in the last century and perhaps in the preceding one, Philip Jackson* conducted on this site or near it, a well known tavern. A number of Kingston Proprietor's meetings were held there. Mr. Jackson was a blacksmith and in 1797 he conducted a shop near this place in partnership with a man named Nelson, under the name of Nelson and Jackson. The Jackson family is one of the oldest at Forty Fort. It seems that about 1812, there was a rejuvenation of the old village; and Philip Jackson plotted his land, and in June of that year advertised for sale "Sixty four building lots at Forty Fort opposite the Raft and Ark Eddy; also a large house which he has occupied as a tavern and store."

On the site of the large two story building, opposite the cemetery and now occupied as a butcher shop and hall, stood the old Forty Fort school house, a one story structure, which was removed by David Culver, when the present building was erected about 1876, by the township. It was considered a fine school building at the time, being two stories high and affording accomodation for a large number of children. There was another old school house in Forty Fort, which stood some distance north of the R. C. Shoemaker residence.

The first storekeeper in Forty Fort was probably Malachi Shoemaker†, who in 1802 acquired ownership of lot No. 26; lot No. 25 being patented to him in 1805. He was a hatter by trade and it is likely that his shop and first dwelling were located on lot No. 26. On December 5, 1801, Malachi Shoemaker & Co., advertised for sale "goods and hats and that they gave the highest price for furs and skins." On November 20, 1811, Malachi Shoemaker sold to Elijah Shoemaker "25 acres off the lower or southeast end of the lot I now live on, being one of the public lots No. 3. In 1822, Mr. Shoemaker was still living in the township and was assessed as a hatter.

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*PHILIP JACKSON was born in 1757, and died May 26, 1851, probably a son of Asa Jackson who was drowned in the Susquehanna in 1784. He was married first to Sarah, born January 31, 1749, died February 25, 1809, widow of Jesse Lee, and daughter of John McDowell. Their children were: Amy born in 1787, died December 4, 1806; Asa born January 8, 1789, married Phebe, widow of James McVickers, September 1, 1811; and Philip. Philip Jackson, Sr. married second Margaret Space born in 1787, died March 9, 1867, and their children were: Sarah Ann born June 3, 1810, died March 29, 1883, married Daniel Roat, born June 3, 1803, died March 1, 1857; Ellen married Charles Hay; Jane married Oliver Culver; John S. born August 24, 1815, died March 17, 1899, married first Anna Allabach, born May 5, 1815, died November 18, 1873, and second to Sallie Dreher born September 13, 1827, died June 9, 1890, and his children were: Sarah Ann born, born June, 1826, died August 26, 1851; Matilda, born November 5, 1838, died July 10, 1842; John born June 1841, died August 17, 1842; Charles, born 1843, died 1893, married Catherine Stroh; Eliza, born June 28, 1848, married Adam Heisz, born November 19, 1846; Mary married Joel Walp; Polly, youngest daughter of Philip Jackson, born October 24, 1817, married Charles Lapha.

†MALACHI SHOEMAKER was probably a son of Daniel Shoemaker, son of Benjamin Shoemaker and a brother of Elijah killed in the battle, and one time a resident of Kingston Township. Malachi Shoemaker married December 30, 1808, Susan Shafer. He purchased from the Proprietors of Kingston 54 acres of Public lot No. 3.

In November, 1832, C. L. Harrington opened a new store which he advertised "was at Forty Fort corners in a new building." On March 25, 1833, he sold this store to Charles A. Parmele and Chester Tuttle.

As early as 1834, George Shoemaker was conducting a general store which stood near the corner of River Street and Wyoming Avenue on a plot of ground now incorporated in the cemetery. This Shoemaker store building was two stories high, faced River Street and was a little north of the present cemetery office. Robert McDowell Shoemaker purchased this store in 1843 and conducted it, until it was discontinued.

In 1820, Robert Sealy and Samuel Bickman conducted a lock and spring latch making business at Forty Fort, and as Mr. Sealy was a blacksmith, evidently they had a blacksmith shop in connection with their lock making business.

Gideon Underwood was a most skilful carpenter and carried on his business in the village where he lived all his life. He is mentioned elsewhere. The old brick house which stood opposite the cemetery and has now been torn down was the home of Robert McDowell Shoemaker, but before he lived there, he occupied a frame house which stood a little above.

The great oak on the avenue was probably one of those first planted, when the road was laid, there being a tradition, that a considerable portion of the avenue was originally lined with trees. It stands in front of what was once the residence of Amos Poole. John S. Jackson long resided a little above this place. The Isaac Tripp residence, still standing opposite Walnut Street was once the home of Abiel Abbott*.

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*ABIEL ABBOTT, born October 7, 1790, died October 2, 1838, was the son of Philip Abbott, and his wife Anna Hewitt who came to Wyoming Valley in March 1772. He married October 17, 1813, Celinda born in 1794, died July 2, 1817, daughter of Elisha and Eunice Carver Atherton and their children were: 1. Jacob Dorman, born February 4, 1815, died February 6, 1833; 2. Celinda, born June 27, 1817, died October 17, 1817. Abiel Abbott married second, May 12, 1822, Sybil Wheeler, born in 1792, died August 14, 1853, a daughter of James Wheeler, an early

Rev. E. H. Snowden purchased a part of the public lot on the avenue on the west side of the town plot and erected his cottage there, (still standing). The brick house at the corner of Slocum street was once the home of Edwin McNeil, president of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad, and later was occupied by Frank Page, a well known contractor who owned the farm. On the upper corner of what is now West Pettebone Street, Samuel T. Pettebone lived and on the opposite corner was the home of Joshua Pettebone.

Rev. Samuel Pugh*, many years ago, conducted a grocery store on River street. He was a local Methodist minister, and well known in the community.

About 1850, James Space* came to Forty Fort and established his residence there.

A postoffice was first established at Forty Fort, March 24, 1848, with Elijah Shoemaker as postmaster. He was succeeded by Robert McD. Shoemaker appointed November 30, 1860; and Alexander W. Greig appointed July 31, 1867. On March 7, 1871, the office was discontinued; but was re-established August 10, 1887 with John Batterton as postmaster. His successors were: William Crosby appointed March 28, 1890; Alexander W. Sloan appointed April 18, 1894; Thomas H. Major appointed April 20, 1898; and Frances A. Wilkinson appointed January 27, 1902. The office was discontinued February 15, 1909, upon the establishment of free delivery from the Kingston office.

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sheriff of the county, and probably the first landlord of the old Exchange Hotel at Kingston Corners. In 1818, Abiel Abbott removed to Mauch Chunk, and later became superintendent of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company works. His children by his second wife were: 3. James W., born December 4, 1823, married Olinda C. Lattimer; 4. Celinda born December 24, 1825, died May 1, 1893, married John J. Smith; 5. Edwin W., born October 2, 1827, died May 26, 1885, married Amelia Lattimer, born April 30, 1831, died July 20, 1817; 6. Anna M., born August 7, 1829; 7. Hannah born April 16, 1832, died December 29, 1832; Louise H., born June 9, 1834.

*REV. SAMUEL PUGH was born in Monroe County, Pa., near Stroudsburg, and married Elizabeth Dreher of Stroudsburg. He came to Forty Fort, many years ago, residing there until he died. He was licensed as a local preacher of the Methodist Chirch and was a highly respected man. His children were: Hannah who married Mr. Helme; Lydia who married L. A. Barber; Esther married William Crosby; Caroline married James Bonham; Sarah married Joseph Smith; Mary married Levi Barnes; Lucinda married James Space; and John.

*JAMES SPACE, was born December 5, 1824, died April 11, 1898, married Lucinda, born July 10, 1830, died March 19, 1915, daughter of Rev. Samuel Pugh. He was the son of James R. Space, born July 12, 1802 in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, Pa., who settled at Wyoming about 1820, where a number of the family still reside. He married Mahalie Piatt, born March 17, 1807. Among his children were: John, Charles, George, James, Mary who married Ezekiel Garrison, Harriet who married James Griener, and Sylvina who married a Mr. Schooley. The children of James Space and Lucinda Pugh Space were: Helen F., born January 14, 1851, married George Pettebone; Edward F., born June 25, 1855; Elizabeth born February 8, 1863, married Harry Pettebone; Fred. L., born November 15, 1865, married Maude Tripp.

A petition to incorporate the Borough of Forty Fort was presented to the court and referred to the Grand Jury, March 29, 1886, and approved by that body April 3d. By a decree made January 31, 1887, the boundaries were fixed as follows: "Beginning at a corner where Riley's lane crosses the D. L. & W. R. R.; thence South 44 degrees 45 minutes west along said railroad to the southwest line of lot No. 19; thence South 32 degrees 9 minutes east along line of said lot to a point in the middle of Wyoming Avenue; and thence along the same to a point between lots Nos. 17 and 18 of the Second Division, which if projected in a northwest direction would intersect the same; thence south 33 degrees 9 minutes east across said road and on the line between certified lots Nos. 17 and 18 aforesaid to the Susquehanna River and thence across the same to the middle of the stream and thence up the same and thence across the stream and the same course on the northeast line of E. Shoemaker, being part of lot No. 10 Second Division 3150 feet to the middle of the public road aforesaid; thence south 71 degrees 30 minutes west 68 feet to a point in the middle of said road; thence north 32 degrees 2 minutes west 635 feet to the beginning." The election was fixed at the Forty Fort school house, the first election to be held third Tuesday of February 1887. Joseph Mitchell was appointed to give notice; and L. A. Barber was appointed judge of election and Fred Stock and George Pettebone inspectors. Objections were made to the boundaries and the decree was modified April 16, 1888, so as to exclude the farm lands of Charles Dorrance, S. B. Vaughn and Thomas Eley.

On April 25, 1896, the court divided the borough into three wards.

The following have been elected officers of Forty Fort Borough and the date when first elected, only, is given:

Burgess: Abram Line 1889; G. B. Dilley 1888; Daniel Culver 1890; W. J. Stroh 1891; L. J. Stroh 1894; Thomas Phillips 1897; John Mathers 1900; Tilghman Geiser 1903; Robert Hislop 1909; Joshua Williams 1913; William A. Wallace 1917; George B. Dilley 1921; Robert Rozelle 1925; Sam. Boyd 1929.

Councilmen: G. J. Shook, Crandall Major, George Shoemaker, L. A. Barber, Adam Heisz, 1887; Jesse Booth, M. B. Bonham 1888; John D. Clarke, John Donachie 1890; F. L. Space, Joseph Tyrell 1891; C. Perrin 1892; W. J. Stroh 1893; S. Marsden, George Peck, 1894; C. G. Mumford, C. S. Steele 1896; Charles Balcomb, James Mackinson 1897; Charles Thomas, Fred Major, I. Coolbaugh 1898; G. M. Wilner 1899; George Culver, A. J.

Bateman 1900; John Dewitt, James H. Evans, Jacob Glahn 1901; George B. Dilley, Isaac Lamoreaux, John Lloyd 1902; S. A. Mensch, L. W. Ellsworth 1903; Thomas H. Major, Peter Glahn 1904; Isaiah Harris 1905; Arthur Clarke, A. E. Rapson 1906; W. T. Pettebone 1907; Thomas Mensch, William R. Ricketts 1908; William A. Culver, A. C. Ransom, George Frantz 1909; Fred Lamoreaux, George W. Bryant 1910; Charles Misch, William F. Donachie 1911; J. H. Dougherty 1913; A. B. Pettebone, E. M. Tripp, A. J. Sordoni 1915; Harry Bonham, William Coutts 1917; Loren N. Williams, Thomas B. Jenkins, Frank D. Kane 1919; Arthur B. Rhodes, Sheldon Evans 1921; Thomas M. James, John Robertson, 1923; W. S. Stroh 1925; Daniel J. Evans, Thomas M. James 1927; Thomas H. Melson, Jr., 1929.

Justices of the Peace: M. B. Bonham 1887; George B. Dilley 1894; C. Stanford Steele 1897; T. Geiser 1899; John D. Clarke, A. W. Sloan, Robert Hislop, R. C. Wallace, Rundle Collins.

High Constables: John Clarke 1890; E. Barnhart 1891; T. Geiser 1892; B. F. Bennett 1893; Charles Smeaton 1899; William Balcomb 1909; Thomas Stroh 1915; Harold Sutliff 1915; Harry P. Boyer 1927.

Constables: George Peck 1887; John Johnson 1890; E. Barnhart 1891; B. F. Bennett 1893; T. Geiser, Charles Smeaton, Bernard O'Boyle, John Bainbridge, Jacob Nafus, Peter Booth, Thomas Stroh, Griffith Pritchard, William Coburn, William Pritchard, James Kelly, W. M. Kishbaugh, S. D. Girwan, Ernest R. Balcomb, T. H. Dungey.

Assessors: M. B. Bonham 1887; Frederick Winters 1888; H. H. Heller 1890; L. A. Barber 1891; J. S. Pettebone 1892; H. L. Grover 1895; A. J. Bateman 1898; Frank Ransom, A. D. Thomas, John Donachie 1901; George Peck, J. A. Parry, George Devans 1904; C. Rundle, W. J. Stroh 1907; John Balcomb 1910; Ed. Charles, Peter Proudhoe 1911.

School Directors: Harvey Yeager, Frederick Winters, A. D. Thomas, Thomas Major, George Pettebone, 1887; I. W. Morrison, G. W. Bryant 1888; I. G. Eckert, William Crosby 1890; H. H. Hadsall, 1891; Adam Stock, J. B. Keeler 1892; J. A. Singer 1893; A. Erwin, L. W. Ellsworth 1894; G. J. Shook, A. Dennis 1896; James Pettebone 1897; N. C. Young, F. L. Space, George E. Devans 1898; George Willis, G. L. Lewis 1899; C. V. Parrish, Adam Heisz, J. B. S. Keeler 1900; H. A. Filmore, John Booth 1901; G. J. Shook, William Boyd, Calvin Perrin 1902; Charles Austin, George R. Murdock 1904; James Weeks, L. Floyd Hess, W. A. Wallace 1906; Lewis Coombs, Arthur Balcomb, W. N. White 1908; John A. Parry, Thomas Thorburn, William J. Stroh 1909; T. A. Major, W. L. Boyd, Robert Wallace 1910; J. L. Hoffman 1911; C. P. Crosby 1913; Chester A. Ide, Anson P. Starr 1915; Walter W. Crittenden 1917; James H. Evans 1919; John H. Doughty, O. B. Pettebone 1921; Eunice B. Dewitt 1925; A. A. Killian 1929.

Auditors: F. B. Thompson 1887; S. C. Shoemaker, Jerome Wickizer, Frank Ransom 1888; H. G. Bonham, George Bryant 1890; E. T. Smith, A. F. Major 1892; L. Mensch 1894; William F. Donachie 1897; Thomas E. Mensch, David Harris, Arthur Ransom 1900; John Balcomb, Grant Meeker 1904; W. R. Boyd 1906; Darius Yeager 1908; Ambrose Jones 1910; R. L. Allen, Ira Roberts 1917; Wilber Starr 1919; Bert Hughes 1921.

Tax Collectors: W. J. Stroh 1887; Simon Bronson 1888; Amos Poole 1890; W. P. Bonham 1893; C. C. Dilcer; Oliver F. Pettebone; Arthur T. Pettebone 1906; John Balcomb 1913; Pearl W. Stout 1921; Ida L. Major 1929.

CHAPTER XVI.

1787—1929

KINGSTON BOROUGH

THE VILLAGE OF MYERSBURG—HENRY BUCKINGHAM, ESTABLISHES LARGE GENERAL STORE—EXCHANGE HOTEL BUILT—THE OLD HOYT STORE—THE THOMAS TANNERY—OLD STONE HOUSE BUILT BY JAMES BARNES—FIRST ATTEMPT TO INCORPORATE AS A BOROUGH IN 1831—DESCRIPTION OF THE VILLAGE IN 1832—FIRST STREET RAILWAY LINE—FIRST FIRE COMPANY ORGANIZED AND ENGINE PURCHASED—NEWSPAPERS OF THE TOWN—NESBITT HOSPITAL.

Prior to 1787, the territory now embraced, within the limits of Kingston Borough, was occupied only by scattered farm houses. On the bank of the river was the Northampton Street ferry, and there on the Kingston side, dwelt Abel Yarrington, the ferryman. Thomas Drake lived on the Belding land, nearly opposite the Welsh Presbyterian Church, and Captain William Gallup's log house stood on the site of the Giles Slocum homestead, just below the Main Street school building. Major Simeon Draper lived near where is now Boyd's store, and Jonathan Dean's cabin stood back from the Avenue toward College Street. Going up the Avenue on the left side, near Hoyt Street was the house of Peter Tift. John and Peleg Comstock, once occupied a farm between this and the house of James Atherton, which stood in the present open field below, the Bell Telephone Company building; and a little above the corner of Union Street, was the house and blacksmith shop of the famous preacher Anning Owen.

On the right side of the Avenue, beginning at the Corners, was Asa Gore, and then Winchester Mathewson. Back from the Avenue, a little South of Peirce Street, and near the high bank of the creek, lived Ezekiel Peirce. Above him lived Abel Peirce, and then Lord Butler on the site of the house recently destroyed. Next above was the home of the Dorrances, where lived John Dorrance, and the heirs of his brother Colonel George Dorrance killed in the massacre. Oliver Pettebone lived on a farm above, and north of Church Street, was the house and blacksmith shop of Obadiah Gore. And just this side of the Forty Fort line was the house and farm of Dr. Oliver Bigelow.

The first frame house to be erected within the limits of Kingston Borough, is said to have been located on the Avenue nearly opposite the Exchange Hotel. It was a small one story house, painted red, and occupied many years by Epaphrus Thompson, a silversmith, who left Kingston in 1818. This building was torn down in 1835. A little below this house, in 1808, a distillery called "The Devil's hog pen", is said to have been operated. In 1796, Daniel Cook and Thomas Duane kept a store on the Avenue, near the Corners.

In 1787, Lawrence Myers, purchased from Amos Draper, lot number 3, Third Division, and in 1790, lot number 4 formerly owned by Jonathan Dean, and thus became possessed of all the land on the westerly side of Wyoming Avenue, at what is now Kingston Corners. This rich plantation was called "Myers Delight," and in the old Draper house which he probably enlarged, he opened a store and tavern.

In 1788, the county laid a road, beginning at the house of Thomas Drake, and following the present Main Street to the house of Lawrence Myers; thence crossing the Main road (Wyoming Avenue) and continuing between the farm formerly of Asa Gore and Winchester Mathewson to the bank of the east branch of Toby's Creek (this was parallel with the present Market Street and began a little north of it, thence continuing the road followed, the high bank to Forty Fort. This made a four corners nearly in front of Myers' tavern, which stood a little south of the site of Boyd's store.

The elections for the territory on the west side of the river, from opposite the Falling Springs, above Coxton, to Hunlock's Creek were held at Mr. Myers' from 1789 to 1806. The store was later conducted by Lawrence and Philip Myers, and a man named Carpenter, but this partnership was dissolved February 13, 1798, and the store was continued by Lawrence Myers.

The enterprise of Mr. Myers attracted the business and political interests of the township, from Forty Fort and established Kingston Village, later the Borough of Kingston. In 1798, William Miller, had a cabinet shop, near Myers' Tavern, and was making spinning wheels there, which were in great demand in the settlements. John L. Baker ran a hatter's shop at about the same time, on the Avenue, a little above the Corners.

Shortly after 1800, Lawrence Myers, plotted his land along the Avenue, into nine house lots, and the community, was for a number of years called "Myersburg."

Late in 1804, or early in 1805, Henry Buckingham came to Kingston from Lebanon, Connecticut, and established a large general store. There is a tradition, that his first store was up the Avenue, near the site of the hospital, but in 1807, he purchased a lot of Lawrence Myers, having previously, upon it, erected a large store building, on the present site of Church's drug store. Later he purchased all the land, from there to the Exchange Hotel, and erected his residence north of the store. This was perhaps, the most complete mercantile establishment in the valley, and he carried a full line of groceries, dry goods, hardware, crockery, hoes, axes, gun powder, salt, nails, ground plaster, stationery, and drugs. In 1807, George Chahoon was in partnership with him, but the firm was dissolved in November 1808, and the business was conducted by Mr. Buckingham, until 1820, when he failed; and the property and the store were purchased by Thomas Borbidge and John Donnelly. Mr. Buckingham* was the first postmaster of Kingston, having been commissioned in 1809.

Thomas Borbidge and John Donnelly, conducted this store under the name of Thomas Borbidge & Co., until August 17, 1824, when the partnership was dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Donnelly, who came here from Philadelphia, and who married August 14, 1823, Elizabeth, daughter of Colonel Elijah Shoemaker. Mr. Borbidge was the postmaster, and conducted the store individually or under the firm name of Borbidge & Carlisle, or Thomas Borbidge & Co., until 1829. Mr. Borbidge was an enterprising man and one of the first to engage in the coal business. In January 1826, he advertised for twenty men who understood the mining of coal. The saw mill, grist mill, and distillery, built by Peter Grubb, which stood on Toby's

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*HENRY BUCKINGHAM, was born at Lebanon, Connecticut, January 13, 1779, and married Harriet Talcott of Canterbury, Connecticut, March 20, 1803. He was Kingston's most enterprising business man in early times. He built the paper mill at Mill Hollow, which will be referred to in another chapter, and was also interested in many business and civic activities, After his failure here, he removed to Newark, Ohio, where he died in 1845. His children were a son George Talcott Buckingham, born in Kingston, December 1, 1806; and a daughter Fanny, born April 16, 1808, who married Jonas Benedict.

Creek, above the Edwardsville bridge, passed into the possession of Mr. Borbidge who tore the buildings down in 1826. These mills were erected by Mr. Grubb before 1800, on land of William Gallup, whose daughter he married; and were conducted by the former until 1807, when he died. The mills were located near the end of the present Cuba Street, and some of the older inhabitants remember playing about the foundations, when they were boys.

Mr. Borbidge failed in 1829 and the store was purchased by Henderson Gaylord & Co., who conducted it under that name or the name of Gaylord & Reynolds, until 1835, when Henderson Gaylord retired and it was continued by William C. Reynolds,* who was succeeded by his brother Abram H. This store building burned down in 1878.

About 1804, John Ebert who was conducting a saddlery shop in the village in 1807, purchased from Lawrence Myers, house lots, Nos. 4, 5, and part of 6 in Myersburg, and began the erection of what is now known as the Exchange Hotel. There is a tradition that he was unable to complete it. James Wheeler, who had been sheriff, succeeded him and died there September 26, 1809, of fever, he being the third of his family to die within a short time of the same disease.

This interesting structure, which has never been remodelled, is probably the oldest building in Northeastern Pennsylvania, used continuously, as it was built, for a hotel. In the early days, the political parties usually held their county conventions at this tavern; and in its ball room, there were many social gatherings. In this hotel, the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad was organized in 1852. This building was considered a very commodious and up to date public house, when it was built.

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*WILLIAM C. REYNOLDS, eldest son of Benjamin and Lydia Fuller Reynolds, was born in Plymouth, December 9, 1801, and died in Wilkes-Barre, January 25, 1869. For many years, Mr. Reynolds was one of Kingston's principal business men and one of its most prominent citizens. He was a representative in the State Legislature in 1836 and 1837, and was Associate Judge of Luzerne County in 1841. He was an early trustee of Wyoming Seminary, and one of the organizers of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad Company of which he was a director during the period of its construction. Mr. Reynolds built and resided in the brick mansion house, which stood where the Kingston Bank and Trust Company building is now located. He married June 19, 1832, Jane Holberton Smith, who died March 6, 1874, and they had the following children: Lydia Frances born July 14, 1833, died August 30, 1833; Emily born December 6, 1836, died February 4, 1838; George Murray born July 17, 1838, died November 13, 1904; Charles Denison born April 17, 1840, died April 20, 1869, married August 7, 1868, Mary W. Burtis. He built and resided in the house now owned by George Schellenberger, and was a merchant at Kingston Corners; Elizabeth born April 13, 1842, married October 1, 1868, Colonel Robert Bruce Ricketts; Sheldon born February 22, 1844, died February 8, 1895, married November 23, 1876, Annie Buckingham, daughter of Colonel Charles Dorrance. She was born May 6, 1850, and died October 4, 1905; Benjamin, born Christmas Day, 1850, died April 1, 1913, married December 17, 1879, Grace Goodwin Fuller.

ABRAM H. REYNOLDS, the youngest brother of William C. Reynolds was born July 14, 1819, and died December 4, 1890. He graduated at Dickinson College, and became a partner of his brother William in the store at Kingston, succeeding to the business, when Judge Reynolds removed to Wilkes-Barre. Abram Reynolds was for years secretary and treasurer of the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad Company, before its merger with the Delaware Lackawanna and Western Railroad. He was a man of fine personality, and a leader in all movements for the betterment of the community. Mr. Reynolds married in 1862, Elizabeth Shepherd, daughter of Ziba Hoyt born October 22, 1832, died September 13, 1901, and they had the following children: Charles H., born January 1, 1864, died August 22, 1901; Emily Fuller, born May 30, 1872, died February 6, 1900; J. Herbert, born May 10, 1876.

The Old Tavern at Kingston Corners — Exchange Hotel

A large hall divided the building. The parlor and dining room are on the northerly side and the bar room is opposite. This was probably the original lay out, although at one time the bar room adjoined the parlor and probably occupied a part of it. The ball room was on the second floor on the southerly side and in all there were eighteen or nineteen rooms. The most interesting part is the kitchen, with its great fireplace and warming ovens, extending across one side of the large room. All the food was cooked over the open fireplace, and many of the cooking utensils and appliances are still preserved and stowed away behind the panels, which now close the great fireplace in.

In olden times, it had many well known landlords, the most prominent of whom were: Archippus Parrish, James Wheeler, Colonel Naphtali Hurlbut,* and Oliver Helme, the last three having been high sheriffs of the county. The owners or landlords have been: John Ebert, 1804; James Wheeler 1809; Joseph Wheeler, 1809-1811; Miner Searle owner, 1810; Archippus Parrish, 1812-1813; Colonel Naphtali Hurlbut 1814-1825; William C. Johnson 1825, but he died in March 1826, and it was conducted by his widow until April 1827, when John Sax became the landlord and conducted it until 1832; Oliver Helme* and Frederick Penney 1832 to 1846, Frank Helme 1847 to 1856, Thomas Wambold 1857. Among the later landlords have been: Patrick McPike, Henry Gebler, Fred Boyer, Hiram Williams and Timothy Harrington.

The next lot number 3 was sold in 1809 by Mr. Myers to William Baker, who sold it in 1811 to Daniel C. Marsh. Payne Pettebone owned it in 1813 and the next year sold it to James Gridley. Archippus Parrish lived on this lot in 1816, the same year that Gridley sold it to Elijah Loveland who owned it until 1839, when he sold it, together with eighteen feet of lot number 2 to Joshua Pettebone. Mr. Pettebone held the title until 1865, when it passed to his daughter Ellen Reese, whose husband, George Reese had a hatter's shop there for many years. Upon this lot is erected the large brick building, formerly known as Dymond & Lewis' block.

Elnathan Wilson purchased lot number 2 in 1808, and probably kept his first store there; but he sold his contract in 1813 to William and Elijah Loveland, who obtained a deed from

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*Napthali Hurlbut, was born in Connecticut in 1767 and came to Hanover Township with his father in 1779. He married Olive Smith, daughter of Dr. William Hooker Smith. He was a colonel of militia and High Sheriff of Luzerne County. He removed to New York State about 1830, where he died. His daughter Esther married Abel Hoyt.

*Major Oliver Helme, was born in Kingstown, R. I. October 12, 1770, and came here from Ballston, N. Y. He was a cabinet maker and engaged in the chair making business in Wilkes-Barre in 1798. In 1801 he kept the Yarrington ferry and tavern in Kingston. He owned land and lived for a time on what is now Main Street in Edwardsville and was in the cabinet making business. He was sheriff of the county 1828 to 1831, and in 1832 purchased the tavern (Exchange Hotel) and conducted it, many years. October 10, 1838, he removed to Bridgewater, Susquehanna County, but later returned here, and died April 17, 1851. He married Cynthia, probably daughter of Zerah Beach, Esq., born 1779, died October 11, 1806, and their children were: Myron Beach, born August 8, 1798, died March 18, 1823; Sarah born July 15, 1800, died October 8, 1884, married William C. Hageman, born May 31, 1792, died April 19, 1851, at Trucksville, and who was a prominent citizen of Kingston Township; James Coon born July 6, 1802, died January 17, 1852; Cynthia Helme Peabody born June 20, 1804, died January 17, 1852; Oliver Jr, born March 11, 1806, married Sarah Drake. Major Helme married as his second wife Sarah Pease, born March 14, 1784, died November 17, 1843, and their children were: Mary born August 27, 1808, married Hiram R. Pease; Rev. Samuel Pease, born April 8, 1810; Rhoda born January 2, 1812; Powel C. born December 26, 1813, died February 1, 1869; John Fowler born October 10, 1815, died April 15, 1829; Frank born August 7, 1816, died June 6, 1897, married to Elizabeth Perrigo, born 1820, died 1877; Eunice Gruman born April 27, 1818, married September 30, 1840, Henry Clemons; Martha born August 20, 1820, died November 17, 1847; George Washington, born May 18, 1822, died in 1893; Harriet Marvin born March 20, 1824, married Amzi Stanley; Myron Beach born August 17, 1826, died March 13, 1887; Ellen Cist born July 27, 1828, died February 5, 1904' married Thomas Hooven; Jeanette Hepburn, born July 29, 1830, married George Kinzer

Sarah Bidlack and Jesse Fell administrators of Lawrence Myers, July 7, 1813. Mr. Wilson was the keeper of the Kingston-Wilkes-Barre ferry in 1813; but in 1815 he was keeping a large general store, probably where now stands the Kingston Corners building.

In 1809, Lawrence Myers sold lot No. 1, adjoining the lot upon which stands Swainbank's store, to Jacob Taylor, and he sold it March 20, 1813 to Elijah and William Loveland. Elijah Loveland* subsequently erected the large frame mansion house, recently torn down and familiarly known as the Tubb's house. The estate, of Mr. Loveland in 1848, sold this house and lot to Dr. Robert H. Tubbs, who in later years erected a store building adjoining his residence, where a drug store was conducted for many years by his son Benjamin R. Tubbs.

The lot at the corner of Market Street and the Avenue, where now stands the Kingston Corners building, was as stated above first occupied by Elnathan Wilson, and there is a tradition that he conducted a tavern on this site in 1820. In a building which stood on this lot, in the twenties, Anson Morton and Edward Rhone had a cabinet shop. It was two doors southwest of Thomas Borbidge's store. Thomas Myers was keeping store in a building on this lot in 1841, the ownership of the lot having been vested in him, by sundry conveyances, made in the partition of the estate, formerly owned by Lawrence Myers. Thomas Myers sold it to William C. Gildersleeve in 1850, and he sold it the same year to Herman L. Emons, who conveyed it in 1854 to Thomas Slocum. Mr. Slocum had his residence there until 1864, when he sold it to Patrick McPike who turned the building into a hotel. It was burned in 1878 and then Mr. McPike erected the large brick building, which is still standing, and now known as the Kingston Corners building. This destructive fire broke out about twenty minutes to 3 o'clock on the morning of January 11, 1878. The fire was first discovered in the store of Remmell & Atherton which stood on the part of the lot, now occupied by the Kingston Corners building, The fire spread to the north, destroying a small building occupied by Dr. Sperling as an office, and the old Reynolds store building, then occupied by A. H. Reynolds as a private office, and by George Dymond as a confectionery store, was also burned. The brick residence of Mr. Reynolds where the bank now stands was badly scorched. McPike's Hotel, then a wooden building on the corner, and occupied by B. Myers, was destroyed. A small brick house next to the hotel, occupied by Mr. Fritz as a jewelry store and by Fuller Reese as a barber shop was also burned. The three story brick building, still standing on Market Street, which adjoins the brick building on the corner was then built and was occupied by Mr. McPike as a residence and by Robert Rice as a store. It was considerably damaged but the brick walls stopped the flames. The fire was of incendiary origin, as a large watch dog in Remmell & Atherton's store was found dead when the fire was first discovered.

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*ELIJAH LOVELAND, was born in Norwich, Vermont, February 5, 1788, and died September 3, 1846. He married June 1, 1815, Mary Buckingham, a sister of Henry Buckingham, and a daughter of Thomas and Trephina Hibbard Buckingham of Lebanon, Connecticut. She was born April 26, 1793, and died March 24, 1855. Mr. Loveland was an elder of the Presbyterian church, and a prominent citizen of Kingston. He and his son William Loveland conducted a broom factory near the lower end of Maple Street for many years. At one time Elijah Loveland had a brick yard located between Main and Maple Streets. His children were: I. Thomas B. Loveland, born December 20, 1817, married first Sarah Baird, second Emily A. Cady. II. William Loveland, born August 5, 1821, married June 17, 1856 at Arkport, New York, Lydia Hurlbut and their children were: Mary Buckingham, born September 16, 1859; Fanny Vaughn, born July 23, 1861; Elizabeth S., born March 6, 1864; Emilie, born August 25, 1865; William, born February 15, 1869, died February 28, 1870. III. George Loveland, born November 5, 1823, married September 29, 1869, Julia L. Noyes of Lyme, Connecticut. George Loveland was a lawyer and prominent citizen of Luzerne County; IV. Henry Loveland, born November 17, 1825, married first Alma Baird, second Nancy Hurlbut; V. John Loveland, born June 23, 1828, married Ellen M. Strong; VI. Mary E. Loveland, born April 20, 1833, married Henry M. Hoyt.

Daniel Hoyt*, owned the land on the westerly side of the avenue, adjoining "Myersburg" on the north, and on November 14, 1810, his enterprising son, Elias opened a new general store, a few rods above the house of Joseph Wheeler (the Exchange Hotel). This was on the site of Swainbank's furniture store and

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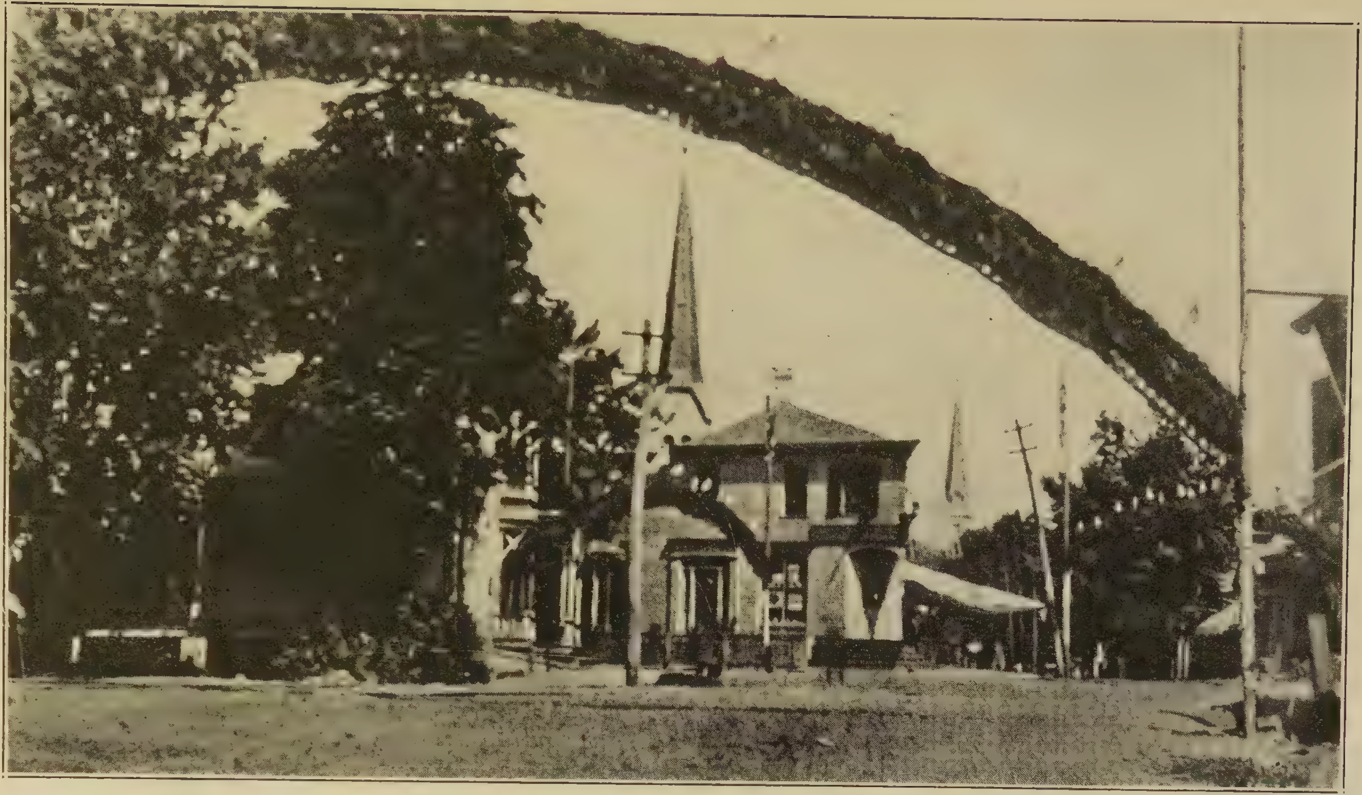
*Daniel Hoyt, second son of Captain Comfort and Anna (Beach) Hoyt, was born at Danbury, Connecticut, May 2, 1756. He married first, May 20, 1779, Anna Gunn, who died October 19, 1804.He married second, May 23, 1805, Silvina Patrick, who survived him. He was a freeman of Danbury in 1778. In 1794, he and his wife and their family of seven children, removed to Kingston. In his later life he was known throughout the Wyoming Valley as "Deacon Hoyt", having been a deacon of the first Presbyterian Church at Kingston. He died at Kingston, August 31, 1824. Children, first seven born at Danbury, Connecticut, others at Kingston, Pa.

1. Beach, born March 24, 1780; died unmarried, at Kingston, December 8, 1800; 2. Clara, born December 16, 1781, died September 1, 1860; married June 1806, Robert Tubbs, lived at Kingston and in Tioga County, Pa.; 3. Anna, born April 4, 1783; married Dr. Ethel Bacon of Tioga County, Pa. 4. Elias, born October 6, 1784; 5. Ruey, born February 14, 1786; died August 26, 1835, married February 23, 1830, Benjamin Reynolds, who died at Plymouth, Pa. February 22, 1854; 6. Ziba, born September 8, 1788; 7. Levi, born December 28, 1791, married Sally Gunn of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., who died in 1851 or 1853. They lived at Dallas, Pa.; 8. Lois, born February 18, 1796; married Ezra Hoyt, lived at Kingston; 9. Abel, born July 17, 1798, married September 14, 1820, Esther Eliza Hurlbut. Lived at Osceola, Tioga County, Pa.; 10. Daniel, born 1800, died at Kingston, aged 10 years.

Ziba Hoyt, second son and sixth child of Daniel and Anna (Gunn) Hoyt, was born at Danbury, Connecticut, September 8, 1788. He married, January 23, 1815, Nancy Hurlbut, daughter of Christopher Hurlbut of Arkport, N. Y. Ziba Hoyt served in the war of 1812 as first lieutenant of the Wyoming Volunteer Matross Artillery Company, organized in Kingston township in April, 1810. He died at Kingston, December 23, 1853. Children of Ziba and Nancy (Hurlbut) Hoyt, all born at Kingston: Ann, born May 20, 1817, married September 1, 1836, Rev. Charles Chapin Corss; died at Smithfield, Bradford Co., Pa., August 9, 1851; John Dorrance, born at Kingston, Pa., August 13, 1819; He married first, November, 1844, Martha Goodwin, who died in 1850, daughter of Abram Goodwin. He married second, June 8, 1853, Elizabeth S. Goodwin, sister of his first wife, Children, all born at Kingston: Ann



Kingston Corners — In 1878 — The Building on the Extreme Left With a Porch, Is the Old Stone House — The One In the Foreground Is Boyd's Store — The Row of Little Buildings On the Right of Market Street Can Hardly Be Distinguished.

probably in a part of the same building. In December 1813, Mr. Hoyt formed a partnership with Thomas Bartlett, who had been the first teacher in the old academy, but on May 19, 1814, Mr. Bartlett died.

Daniel Hoyt came to Wyoming Valley and purchased lot No. 5 of the Third Division, from the Trustees of the Proprietors and lot No. 6 of which Timothy Peirce was the original proprietor, and established his home on Wyoming Avenue, just above Hoyt Street. The old colonial house which stood at the corner, on the site of the present American store, until a few years ago when it was torn down, was built by him.

Elias Hoyt* conducted a store in the building which he built (now Swainbank's) after the death of Mr. Bartlett, until about 1825, when he sold the business to George M. Hollenback, who ran it until October 5, 1827, when he was succeeded by Chahoon & Lanning who conducted it until 1830. Elias Hoyt in partnership with George W. Layng was again doing business there in 1830, but the latter retired May 10th, 1831, and the business was conducted by Mr. Hoyt until his death. He was succeeded by his son Zebulon B. Hoyt, and later occupants of this building were: Pringle & Darte (A. J. Pringle and Alfred Darte), Pringle and Leacock, (A. J. Pringle and Norman H. Leacock), N. G. Pringle, Davis Bros., and George H. Swainbank, the present owner of the building. In the early sixties, Luther C. Darte who later became a successful insurance man and prominent politician clerked in this store.

Elizabeth, born September 16, 1845; Abram Goodwin, born January 25, 1847; Martha Sarah, born October 14, 1849, married June 19, 1872, Frederic Corss, M. D.; John D., born June 6, 1854, died in infancy.; Augusta, born July 18, 1856; Edward, born January 22, 1859; Henry M. born November 8, 1861; Mary C., born September 15, 1865, died in infancy.

Edward Pierce, born May 25, 1823, died in infancy; James, born September 12, 1827, died January 17, 1829; Henry Martyn, born June 8, 1830; Elizabeth Shepard, born October 22, 1832, married Abram H. Reynolds.

*ELIAS HOYT, born October 6, 1784 in Danbury, Connecticut, died October 27, 1853. Married in 1813, Mary R. Weston, who died in 1859. Their children were; I. Eliza Starr, born July 12, 1814; II. Samuel, born November 2, 1816, married first Ann Nesbitt, September 9, 1845. She died May 4, 1857 and he married second Mary M. Miller on January 26, 1860. He was a surveyor and built and resided in the large brick mansion house on the avenue, now the Hoyt Library. His children were: Emily, born August 15, 1849; Lydia, born October 18, 1853; Warren N., born September 20, 1854; Frank Weston, born April 23, 1866, who in his will devised the Samuel Hoyt residence to Kingston Borough for a public library; III. Matilda B., born October 17, 1817, died March 21, 1850; IV. William, born September 8, 1819, married Mary Grosvenor, May 15, 1840. He was a farmer, living in Plymouth Township near the Kingston line. His children were: Ruth, born 1847, and Theodore, born in 1849. V. Henry Weston, born April 12, 1821, died March 11, 1835. VI. Charles Norris, born May 4, 1823, died February 10, 1855; VII. Caroline, born July 22, 1826, married O. N. Salisbury, December 21, 1847, died in 1859. VIII. Zebulon Butler, born February 6, 1828, removed to Michigan. IX. John Sidney, born March 2, 1830, died February 26, 1855. X. George Edward, born September 1833, died June 1863, served in the Civil War and was Lieutenant Colonel of the 143d Regiment. XI. Mary S., born January 25, 1836, married Dr. L. A. Smith, June 1865.

In August 1814, Sarah Bidlack widow of Lawrence Myers sold to James Barnes,* the land lying south of the road to Plymouth and extending to the avenue. On this lot he erected the stone house, long so well known, and recently torn down. It stood between the store building of the Roat Supply Co. and Main Street. It was built between 1814 and 1818. In June 1817, Mr. Barnes was conducting a dry goods store in Kingston, and presumably in this building or on its site. On December 4, 1818, he advertised a new store in Kingston, which would indicate, that the stone house had just been completed, and this agrees with statements made, that he built it in 1818. In 1835, the sheriff sold it as the property of James Barnes to Joshua Edwards, who owned it until 1840, when he sold it to George W. Little. Mr. Little owned it until 1843, when he sold it to James Atherton and Benjamin Needham who conducted in it a foundry until 1847, when they changed it to a large general store. In 1848 they failed and the sheriff sold as their property "One acre, improved with a large two story stone building, finished off, as a store and dwelling", to Henry M. Fuller. Mr. Fuller owned it until 1850, when he sold it to Thomas Myers, who may have conducted a general store there for a short time; but he soon failed and in 1853 it was sold by the sheriff to Elizabeth C. Myers, his wife. She sold it in 1870 to Philip Myers, who sold it in 1888 to A. J. Roat. During the period, that it was owned by Thomas Myers, and his wife, it was changed from a store to a dwelling, and a new roof of different design, was put on, from which circumstance, it was known as "Myers' cocked hat." After the removal of Thomas Myers from Kingston, it was used again as a store but mainly as offices, until purchased by Mr. Roat, who stored hardware there.

The tannery, which stood in the locality, which was once known as "Goose Island", the lower part of Wyoming Avenue, was built in 1817 by Captain Samuel Thomas. He purchased an acre of ground, running back from the avenue and along the road to the creek (first pondhole), from Daniel Hoyt, August 27, 1817. This tannery he conducted until November 1, 1838, when he sold it to Ira Carle. General Thomas, then removed to Wyoming, Illinois, where he was still living in 1871. Mr. Carle ran the tannery until after 1865, when he discontinued it. This property except a small part on Wyoming Avenue, is still in the possession of the Carles, the present owner, being I. A. Carle. Ira Carle* after discontinuing the tanning business, became a justice of the peace, and had his office in a small wooden building which stood on the Avenue, where is now built the rear of the Ford Motor Company building.

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*James Barnes was born in New York State, in 1782 and died in Perth Amboy, N. J. in 1868. After he left Kingston, he lived in Wilkes-Barre, for many years. His children were: James W., who died unmarried; Rufus Henry who had two sons, Charles and Rufus Henry Jr; Malvina F., who married Orsimus H. Wheeler and lived in Wilkes-Barre; Joshua Edwards, born October 14, 1818, and died February 15, 1858, married Elizabeth Goodyear Woodbridge, and their children were, Edward W., born February 4, 1848, died August 1923, Rev. Stephen G., born April 12, 1853, resides at Essex Junction Vt., and James W., born January 28, 1857, resides at Meriden, Connecticut. Joshua Edwards Barnes was superintendent of the Little Schuylkill Railroad and Mining Co., and was suffocated in the burning mine at Summit Hill. He resided at Tamaqua.

The old tannery consisted of a currier shop which was on the Avenue, and then built towards the creek, were the vats about twenty in number, then the bark grinding shed, a barn, and the house on its present site. Mr. I. A. Carle has now in his possession, the old bark mill, installed by General Thomas, more than a hundred years ago. The great flood of 1865, washed out much of the old tannery and its stock.

"Goose Island" was so called, because near where Carle Street, now is, a little brook crossed the Avenue, over which was a bridge. This separated it from the rest of the town, and from the fact that the Hoyt's always kept a large flock of geese, the rest of the town, dubbed it, in derision "Goose Island," and the name remained for nearly a hundred years. In early times there were only three houses on the "Island", those of Ziba Hoyt, Ira Carle and William Norris, all of which, though they have been remodelled, are still standing.

Giles Slocum, lived in the house on Main Street now owned by William Troster, and the old house across the street was occupied in the "sixties" by Jane Myers. John R. Gates† lived in a story and a half house, a little farther down. On a part of the Main Street school property William Barker* had a blacksmith and machine shop, with a lathe to turn iron. The Barkers were ingenious men, and made several well known and useful inventions, including the Barker water wheel and the Barker scale.

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*IRA CARLE, was one of the best known characters in Kingston a generation ago. He usually wore a high silk hat, carried a cane, dressed in the old style, and the tall venerable form of Squire Carle, was a familiar sight, about Kingston Corners thirty years ago. He was born September 17, 1812 and died February 21, 1902. He was a tanner and currier by trade and his wife was Ellen Davenport, a sister of Ira Davenport of Plymouth. She was born March 1, 1815 and died March 3, 1867. Ira Carle always took a prominent part, in the political affairs of Kingston Borough and he and his numerous sons usually led the Democratic party in a Republican town. His children all born in the old Thomas house were: Weldon, born November 11, 1838; Margaret, born October 18, 1840; Hannah Ophelia, born August 22, 1842; John D., born September 19, 1844; Thomas, born April 1, 1846; William Clarence born April 1, 1849; Susan Frances, born February 14, 1852; Ira Alonzo, born August 7, 1853.

†NATHANIEL GATES, was born March 4, 1753, died November 7, 1793. He was sergeant of the Continental company and fought in the Battle of Wyoming, and was one of the survivors. He was married February 3, 1783 to Lucy, daughter of Captain William Gallup. His, was the first body interred in the Gallup cemetery. His children were: Lucy, married to Daniel, son of Joseph Swetland; Trumenda, born 1793, married first Oliver Pettebone, Jr., second to Freeman Thomas; and Nathaniel Jr., born February 12, 1791, died September 23, 1827, married Ruth Richards, born November 22, 1792, died August 26, 1851. He was a carpenter;

The "Class House" belonging to the Methodist Society, stood on a part of the school property, below the house still standing, and formerly the home of Abram Nesbitt. Thomas Myers deeded this lot to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church February 24, 1841, and they deeded it back to him, the following November. The building was evidently erected many years before, and the early Methodist services were held there. In later years it was used as a school house.

Abraham Goodwin† of Towanda, purchased from his brother-in-law Thomas Myers, December 3, 1841, thirteen acres, running across the Myers farm, lots numbers 3 and 4, and facing on the present Maple, Chestnut, and Page Streets; also the lot of land at the corner of the present Main and Market Streets and running along Market Street, so far as to include the present John Daniels property. On the site of the house owned by Mr. Daniels, was a story and a half dwelling, occupied for many years by those who conducted the livery stable in the rear. This was the Goodwin farm house.

Their children were: 1. Sarah, born March 21, 1816, married John W. Horton; 2. John R., born November 17, 1819, died June 6, 1894, married February 23, 1842, to Mary, born November 16, 1819, died April 27, 1890, daughter of David Goodwin; Children, Nathaniel, born December 1, 1843; died June 27, 1844; Dr. William R. Gates, born May 18, 1845, died August 31, 1900; Horatio C., born December 22, 1847, died October 13, 1850; Eliza Jane born April 17, 1850, died August 17, 1852; Frank born May 14, 1856, died February 15, 1922, married January 1, 1881, to Loretta Barney, born October 12, 1851. 3. Courtland N., born July 27, 1822, married Margaret Swain, and lived in Wilkes-Barre; 4. Horatio Carlisle, born October 2, 1826, died June 22, 1902, carried on the foundry business in Wilkes-Barre.

*WILLIAM BARKER, was a first cousin of Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, and came to Kingston about 1800. He was born at Chelmsford, Mass., June 1, 1782, and died at Carbondale, January 10, 1860. He established a blacksmith shop and machine shop near Kingston Corners on the site of the present Main Street school building. He was an able man and was the inventor of several useful articles, including the Barker scale. He married Ann Gunn of Connecticut and their children were: Rev. Abel Gunn Barker, born in 1811, died at Wyoming in 1886, who was an inventor and coal operator at Carbondale for many years, and also a Methodist minister; Samuel G. Barker, founder of the firm of S. G. Barker & Sons, scale manufacturers; Rev. Thomas B. Barker, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church at Lancaster, Pa., and George B. Barker, master of a preparatory school at Germantown, Pa. and father of Rev. William M. Barker late Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Olympia.

†ABRAHAM GOODWIN, was born in Kingston Township July 6, 1790. He was the son of Abraham and Catherne King Goodwin, who came to Kingston Township from New York state in 1784. In 1794 he removed to Exeter near the Kingston line where he died July 1822. His wife died October 24, 1814. His son Abraham married November 12, 1812, Sarah, daughter of Philip and Martha Bennet Myers, born September 25, 1792. He removed to Bradford County, where he was an Associate Judge. About 1840 he returned to Kingston where he died May 15, 1880. His wife died March 4, 1867. Their children were: Martha, born October 3, 1816, married John D. Hoyt; Philip, born May 10, 1818, and his children were: Frank who lived and died in Kingston; Mary who married Professor W. L. Dean; Helen who married

In 1843, his son Philip Goodwin, started a drug store in a building which stood on the site of the residence of Harry Dixon, on Main Street. This building was later used as a bakery and was operated by the Hyndmans. The Goodwin drug store was for many years conducted by Abram Goodwin, a brother of Philip, and has continued to the present day, but in different buildings, and is now owned by William F. Church & Sons. Boyd's store was a residence, and for a time occupied by H. A. Fonda superintendent of the railroad, but later Abram Goodwin conducted his drug store and had the post office there.

On the east side of the avenue, beginning at Market Street, the property now owned and occupied by Neary & Turner, seems to have been vacant in early times. It was a part of the Hollenback, later known as the Rutter farm. Nathaniel Rutter sold it to Elizabeth Hoover, wife of Philip Hoover* in 1870, and the Hoovers had their residence on this property many years before. Long ago a small building stood on this lot and in it a select school was once taught by Miss Caroline Seeley† and Miss Martha Locke. Ellis Thomas at one time had a shoemaker shop in this building.

In 1862, A. J. Roat and C. W. Boughton‡ purchased the next sixty foot lot and erected a blacksmith shop which stood where Robinson's barber shop now is, and a wagon shop which stood where the American store is located. They divided this property in 1896, Mr. Roat taking the thirty feet, on which the blacksmith shop stood, and Mr. Boughton the remainder with the wagon shop.

W. I. Brown, and John, born Februry 8, 1821; Elizabeth, born January 1, 1824, married as second wife John D. Hoyt; Abram, born December 14, 1829, who was a druggist and postmaster of Kingston for many years and whose son is Willard H. Goodwin, Esq. Sarah Myers, born September 30, 1832, died February 22, 1894, married Abram Nesbitt.

*Philip Hoover located in Kingston long before the Civil War. Among his children were: Roxanna, born February 20, 1836, died December 9, 1920, married E. C. Starbird, born February 4, 1835, died August 4, 1904; Paschal L. Hoover who was a soldier in the Civil War; Ferdinand R. Hoover; John Hoover; Mahalla, who married William Daines and moved to Mt. Carroll, Illinois; Marilla; Lillian, who married a Mr. Gress; and Electra who married a Mr. Knapp.

†Robert Seeley was born in 1787, and died May 4, 1853. His wife Mary, born May 1, 1800, died August 20, 1867. Their children were: Sarah Seeley Willits, born 1818, died 1892; Mary Ann, married Henry C. Wilson; Elizabeth, born July 18, 1823, died December 22, 1854, married first Joseph Bond, second Richard Hutchins; Jane, born August 3, 1828, died August 6, 1848; Eudora born in 1831, died May 15, 1856, married John P. Whitman; George, born December 28, 1824, died December 14, 1901; John; Caroline, born 1838, died June 27, 1892, married June 11, 1863, to Hon. Alfred Darte.

‡Charles W. Boughton, was born in Orange County, N. Y., March 10, 1828, and died in 1910. In 1849, he came to Kingston and engaged in the wagon-making and blacksmithing business. At one time he was in partnership in that business with A. J. Roat. Mr. Boughton held many political offices in the borough, during his long residence here. His first wife Mary Ann Wright died in 1869, and his second wife was Martha Bogart. Mr. Boughton's children, by his first wife were: George; Kate (Mrs. Charles R. Acker); Nelson C.; Grace; and Jennie (Mrs. Myron Garney).

In 1864, Rosetta Phillips purchased what was known as the Van Scoy property, now owned by E. F. Schmaltz and erected a store building. This was purchased from her by Henry Van Scoy, who conducted a bakery there for many years. At the time he was postmaster, the postoffice was located in the building now standng.

The old Dymond & Lewis butcher shop lot, now occupied by Stevick's store, was purchased from the Lannings by Richard Hutchins* in 1851, and he conducted a saddlery shop there for many years. His son Thomas Hutchins probably born there became an admiral in the United States Navy. The estate of Mr. Hutchins sold it in 1868 to Levi and Ellis J. Thomas, who conducted a tin shop there, and sold the lot in 1871 to Calvin Dymond and John D. Lewis.

In this tin shop, on Saturday, April 24, 1869, a most destructive fire broke out shortly after 11 P. M., and before the flames were subdued, eight building had been destroyed, or everything, which stood on that side of the Avenue from Market Street to the residence of Reuben Jones, the house where Mrs. Frank Gates now resides. The buildings destroyed were: the residence of Philip Hoover, A. J. Roat's blacksmith shop, C. W. Boughton's wagon shop, A. Kline's clothing store, which was on the lot above the American store, the store and dwelling on the Schmaltz lot then occuped by Leander Smith, the Thomas tin shop, and the residence of Reuben Marcy. The Kingston firemen used the old hand pumper, and were assisted by the firemen and engine from Wilkes-Barre. Thomas Kelly, night watchman at the Lackawanna shops, who with others was in one of the burning buildings, fighting the fire, was caught beneath a falling chimney, and as no help could reach him because of the flames was burned to death and suffered the most terrible agony. Timothy McDonough was likewise caught, but managed to extricate himself, although considerably burned and bruised. Anthony Bersch and Reuben Marcy were also injured. All the present buildings in this section as a consequence of the fire were erected after the disaster.

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*Richard Hutchins, was a son of Thomas Hutchins, and was born in Wilkes-Barre, May 23, 1819, and died in Kingston, January 26, 1863. He was a harness maker. He was one of the first members of the borough council, and was county commissioner in 1851, 1852 and 1853. His first wife was Frances E., daughter of Col. George W. Little, born 1819, died January 26, 1853. Their children were: Richard born in 1847, married first Marilla Shafer, second Winifred Morton, lived for many years in Wyoming, where he recently died; Thomas Hutchins, an Admiral in the United States navy; and Mary F., born in 1842, married to George O. Richmond. Richard Hutchins was a brother of Thomas Hutchins of Wyoming (See hereafter).

The next property where the theatre now is, was purchased from Matthias Hollenback, by Albert Skeer, in 1828, and he sold it to Reuben Marcy in 1864. Mr. Marcy was a well known carpenter and builder and he resided there for a number of years, and sold the lot in 1871 to Reuben Jones.

In 1827, Mr. Hollenback sold the next lot to Reuben Jones, who was a tailor and conducted his business there for many years. At one time he was in partnership with a Mr. Lyons Mr. Jones* was familiarly known as Squire Jones, and was one of the most prominent men of Kingston Township and Borough in his time.

Where the light company office now is, a store building was erected and in 1829 David Baldwin kept a store and the post office there. In it, General Samuel Thomas kept a general store until July 22, 1833, when he removed to the old stone house. Later William and Almon Church were in business, there for many years. William Church began business there in 1835 and purchased the property in 1855, selling it to Helen M. Prendegast in 1863. Dennis Prendegast kept a store there at one time, and in 1871, it passed into the possession of Dr. Frederic Corss.

The property where H. C. Miller and his son Albert E. Miller conducted an undertaking establishment, many years, was first purchased from the Rutters by Peter Wambold in 1863. Mr. Wambold erected the buildings and was in the undertaking and furniture business for many years. Herman C. Miller purchased the property and business in 1885.

The Sgarlat building is erected on the lot where stood for many years, the homestead of William G. Colley, who purchased the lot in 1868 from Dr. R. H. Tubbs, who had purchased the vacant lot from Emily L. Wright, a few years before.

Mrs. Wright sold the next lot (the Newell property) to P. V. Wambold in 1868, and his estate sold it in 1884 to T. L. Newell, who erected the present block.

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*REUBEN JONES, was a son of Reuben Jones, an early settler in Kingston Township, for whom Elias Hoyt was appointed administrator. He married Cynthia, a daughter of Rev. Darius Williams, and resided for the greater part of his life in the house on Wyoming Avenue, now occupied by Mrs. Frank Gates. He was a justice of the peace of Kingston Township, and later of the Borough, until his death. His office was in a small frame building, adjoining his residence.

Bigley's store was the old lecture room of the Presbyterian Church. This building was erected in 1853, but the Presbyterians sold it in 1875, when they ceased to hold Sunday school and prayer meetings there. A public school was held in this building for many years.

Market Street below the Corners was of more recent development. In 1867, Mary Ann Lanning sold to C. S. and J. D. Coon, the narrow strip of land between Market Street and the property of Ira Carle and running from the Avenue to the creek. Alfred H. Coon purchased it a year later from his brothers. It was then unoccupied, except by a small tin shop, where is now the Ford motor car building, conducted by John J. Johnston, who sold his business and contract for the land May 8, 1868 to Andrew J. Roat*. He began there and conducted for many years, the large hardware store, which is now known as the Roat Supply Co. Shortly after A. H. Coon purchased this land he ran a brick yard there, taking the clay from that part of the property near H. F. Johnsons & Son's store. The brick of which Mr. Coon's house was built were burned there.

Mr. Coon sold the lot adjoining the Roat property in 1883 to Timothy McDonough, who erected the present building and conducted a saloon for many years.

Priestley R. Johnson in 1875 purchased the lot on which his son Henry F. Johnson built the store, where has been conducted the tinning and plumbing business for so many years. The Jacobs property adjoining was first purchased by Samuel W. Baird whose brother Taylor Baird had a lumber yard there for some time. Emerson B. Jacobs purchased it in 1888.

The next lot was sold by Mr. Coon in 1884 to Charles J. Turpin† who had a harness shop there for several years. Below this E. B. Jacobs and W. M. VanHorn started a blacksmith and wagon shop in 1884. They dissolved partnership later and Mr. VanHorn continued the business there. The shop was burned in the fire which destroyed the Coon mill. E. B. Jacobs went across the street and built a shop where the Will H. Colley building is now located.

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*DANIEL ROAT, was born April 12, 1803, died March 4, 1857, and married Sarah Ann, born June 3, 1810, died March 29, 1883, daughter of Philip Jackson. They lived for a time in Buckhorn Columbia County, and in 1843, located in Kingston, residing on College Avenue. Their children were: 1. John J., died when one year old; 2. Phebe A., married William Owen; 3. Andrew Jackson, born April 20, 1833, died February 19, 1913, married Mary A. Gabriel, born February 20, 1829, died May 16, 1908. He was enrolling officer during the Civil War and conducted the large hardware business for many years. He was the father of the following children, Harry G., born 1857, C. Edward, born September 2, 1860, died November 7, 1925, G. Murray born February 29, 1864; 4. Elizabeth, died when 3 years old; 5. Margaret, died young; 6. George W., removed to the South; 7. Matilda, married Harry Minnick, 8. James A., married Elizabeth Laphy; 9. Benjamin B., married Kate L. Corby; 10. Mary J., married Joseph McVetty; 11. Frank W.; 12. Caroline P., died when 7 years old.

†CHARLES J. TURPIN, was born in Ohio, October 21, 1837, died April 12, 1916, and married September 19, 1867, Sarah A. Bryant, born January 7, 1848, died February 28, 1925. He was educated at Wyoming Seminary and became a surveyor. When a young man he assisted in laying out the city of St. Paul, Minnesota. He served in the Civil War as a member of Company D 143d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, and was one of the engineering corps of the

A. H. Coon erected his large brick residence in 1870 and the first grist mill, a wooden structure in 1889. This mill was burned in 1896 and was replaced by the brick building now occupied by the Standard Top Company. In this building Mr. Coon conducted a grist mill, and later T. F. Quigley, a Mr. Healey and some others ran an ale and porter brewery for some time.

When the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad was opened in 1856, Depot, later Market Street, then called Church Street was extended from College Street through the Goodwin and Myers farms to the depot. On July 1, 1857, Madison F. Myers sold to Alfred H. Coon*, the lot of land upon which Mr. Coon erected a wooden hotel building, which is known to the present generation as the "Kingston House." Mr. Coon sold this hotel to Peter Wolcott in 1879, and Mr. Wolcott sold it to James P. Donahoe, the present owner, who tore the old building down in 1907 and erected the present hotel.

In 1870 Philip M. Goodwin sold to Daniel Edwards, the land at the corner of Market and Page Street, upon which Mr. Edwards soon afterwards erected the large brick building, where under the name of Edwards & Co. he conducted the company store for so many years. The opposite corner was sold by

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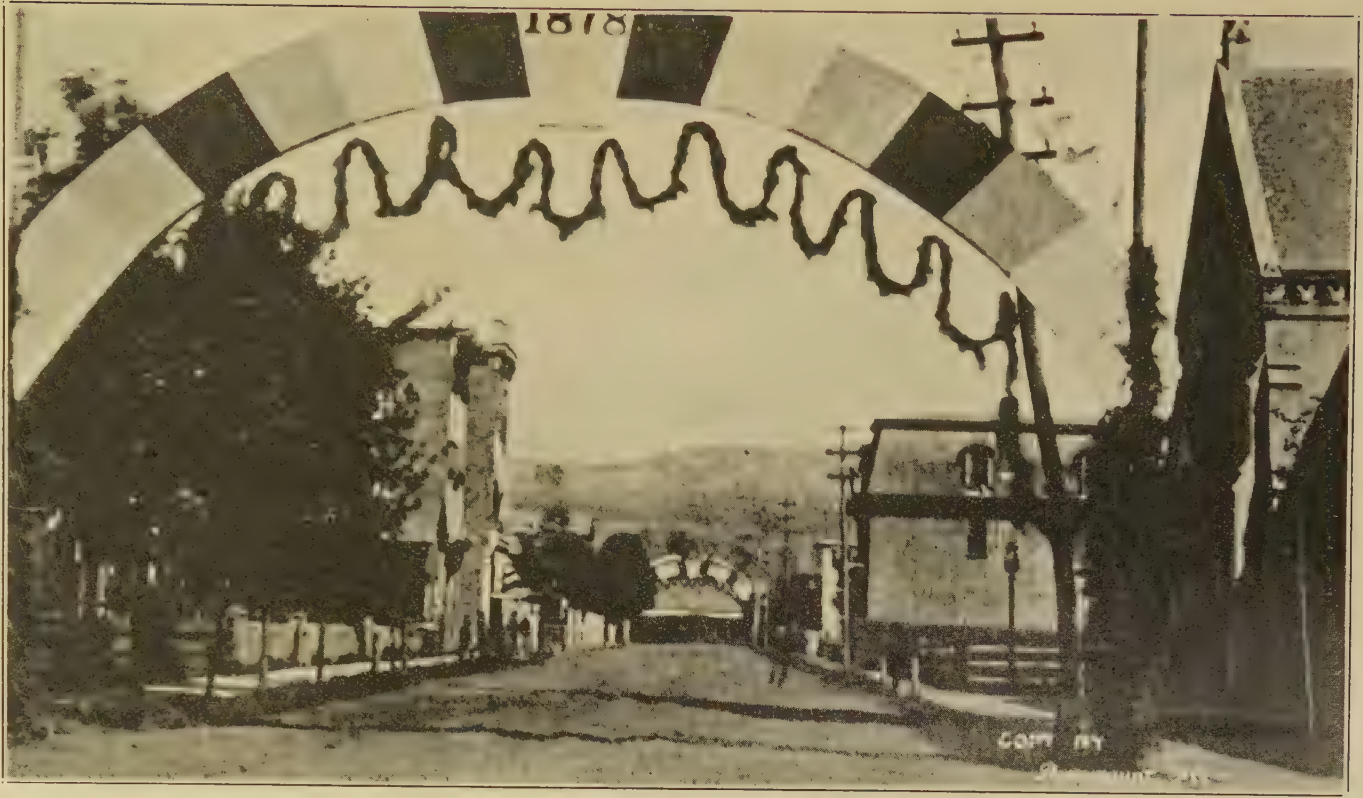
army which laid out the roads and entrenchments during the Wilderness Campaign. At one time, Mr. Turpin conducted a harness store on Market Street, and later engaged in the real estate business acting as the agent in the sale of the Rutter Avenue lots and the old part of the Dorranceton section. Mr. Turpin was the father of the following children: Maude, who married Cecil Stevens, Fred. C., Anna R., and Hon. C. Murray Turpin, the present member of Congress from this district.

*Alfred H. Coon, was one of the most enterprising citizens Kingston Borough ever possessed. He was born May 29, 1829 in Scott Township, near Carbondale. He and his father constructed for Jay Gould, the plank road to his tannery at Thornhurst. In 1856, he came to Kingston with his father Jacob Coon and brother C. S. Coon, they having the contract to build the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad from West Nanticoke to Shickshinny. Mr. Coon married July 17, 1856, Lorinda, daughter of Reuben Marcy. Mrs. Coon was born May 15, 1833, and died March 6, 1921. Her father Reuben Marcy was born September 7, 1809 and died in Kingston September 2, 1886. Mr. Coon was an extensive contractor, and built the Brooklyn aqueduct about 1860. He also built the water works at Washington, D. C., and the great Delaware break water at Cape Henelopen for the United States government. Mr. Coon built the first street railway, the one from Kingston to Wilkes-Barre, which he owned with John Keller of Larksville. The first water works in Kingston were built by Mr. Coon. The pipe lines extended up the Avenue as far as Hoyt Street, and out Market Street as far as College Street. The water was pumped from a well to a high tank. This system he sold to Daniel Edwards and it became the Kingston Water Company. His children were: Charles C., born November 14, 1856; Alfred A., born June 21, 1858; Crittenden J., born June 21, 1862; Bolton G., born March 28, 1868; Oswald M., born May 16, 1870. Mr. Coon died January 31, 1913.



Market Street, Kingston, In 1878 — Looking From Maple Street Towards the Depot — The Two Brick Buildings on the Left Are the Keller Block and Edwards & Co.'s Store — The First Building Seen Beyond the Presbyterian Church Was on the Site of the Old Bank Building, and Was Removed to Chestnut Street — The Last Building on the Right Is the Old Kingston House.

Abram Goodwin to John Keller in 1874 and upon this lot Harvey Tuttle had erected the large three story brick building, and also conducted a lumber yard on the adjoining lot. John Bersch son-in-law of Mr. Keller, later had the lumber yard, which was destroyed by fire in 1885 or 1886.

Page Street was opened in 1856 or 1857, and was named after Frank Page*, who was a principal contractor, in the construction of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad. Mr. Page purchased the old Hunlock† homestead, still standing at the foot of Page Street and resided there for a number of years.

In 1809, Dr. Eleazer Parker came to Kingston, from Willingboro, now Great Bend in Susquehanna County, and soon thereafter Daniel Hoyt sold to him a lot of ground having a frontage of one hundred feet on the Main road (now Wyoming Avenue), and upon this lot Dr. Parker erected his residence, which stood in the present vacant lot between Davis & Craig's store and the Hoyt Library. On January 8, 1816, the sheriff sold this as the property of Dr. Parker to David Scott, who assigned his deed to Benjamin Dorrance. Mr. Dorrance conveyed it August 23, 1816 to John Gore in trust for Sarah Bidlack. In this Parker house, Mrs. Bidlack and her husband the well known preacher Benjamin Bidlack lived the remainder of their lives. After the death of Mrs. Bidlack, Asa Gore and John Gore her heirs sold it to Samuel Hoyt, March 23, 1846, it being then described as "The estate of Sarah Bidlack, bounded on the south east by the Main road, on the south west by lands of Elias Hoyt, and on the northwest by the same and on the northeast by lot owned now by Wyoming Bank in the possession of Dr. Jackson, being one hundred feet on Main street, and one hundred ninety eight feet back, and being the same lot Daniel Hoyt conveyed to Eleazer Parker." Samuel Hoyt either tore down or removed the Bidlack house.

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*FRANK PAGE, was born in Vermont in 1831, and died in Scranton in 1884. With his brothers Joseph H. and Walter R., he came to Brooklyn, Susquehanna County. He and his brothers were pioneer railroad contractors, and they built a considerable portion of the Erie Railroad and also of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad. Mr. Page came to Kingston in 1856, and removed from Page Street to his farm in Forty Fort, where he resided in the brick house until recently standing at the corner of the avenue, and Slocum street. Mr. Page removed from there in 1869, to New Jersey, where he built the Boonton Branch of the Lackawanna Railroad. He also constructed the Elevated Railroad in New York. His wife was Harriet a sister of Horace Welch, and their children were: Caroline, who married Thomas Ely; Nellie who married Edward Galloway; George; Abbie married Augustus Eckstein; and Frank.

†JAMES HUNLOCK, was born at the old Hunlock homestead at the mouth of Hunlock's Creek in what is now Hunlock Township. He married December 28, 1836, Ann Maria Royal daughter of George H. Royal, who with his father-in-law Reuben Holgate was engaged in the woolen manufacturing business at Mill Hollow, under the firm name of Holgate Royal & Co. Jameson Hunlock was a farmer and resided in the old house still standing at the corner of Page and Main streets. His wife died in 1875, and he, May 6, 1887 in Franklin Township where he then resided Their children were: Andrew Hunlock, born May 1, 1839, a prominent lawyer and citizen of Wilkes-Barre; George R. Hunlock, born October 2, 1840; Helen M. Hunlock, born September 17, 1843; Francis A. Hunlock, born June 21, 1845, married John Bound; John G. Hunlock, born November 25, 1847, resided at West Wyoming; Thomas B. Hunlock, born September 27, 1850; Edward Hunlock, born October 9, 1855.

Daniel Hoyt sold to James W. Barnum, May 20, 1812, the fifty foot lot north of the Parker lot, and Mr. Barnum sold it February 27, 1815 to Nehemiah Ide, Jr., who owned it until November 18, 1817, when he sold it to Dr. Asa C. Whitney. The adjoining fifty feet Dr. Whitney purchased in 1818 from Horace Parker administrator of the estate of Samuel Foster. Dr. Whitney erected a frame office building adjoining his residence, Shortly before his death, he sold the property to Thomas Astley. The Whitney house occupied the greater part of the site of the library building, and the office stood in the vacant space above it. Mr. Astley sold it in April 1833 to Luther Kidder, and he transferred it in July of the same year to Sharp D. Lewis, who had his printing office there, in the frame office building erected by Dr. Whitney. This property passed into the possession of Henry Colt, and it was sold by the sheriff November 19, 1844, to the Wyoming Bank, being then described as "bounded on the southeast by the Main road, on the southwest by lands occupied by Bidlack, on the northwest unknown, on the northeast by land occupied by Little, containing about one half acre, with frame dwelling house, frame office and frame barn." The Wyoming Bank sold this property April 1, 1846, to Samuel Hoyt, who removed the frame house and erected a residence of brick on its site. His first residence is the middle portion of the present library building, and originally a frame building was attached to this in the rear, which was probably a part of the old Whitney house. Years after, this wooden part was torn away, and the present back part of brick, built. The present front part of the building was erected by Mr. Hoyt, many years after he first established his residence there.

The lot immediately above now occupied by F. J. Markle, was sold by Daniel Hoyt to Ezra Hoyt, who sold it in October 1813, to Silas H. Orcutt*, who probably built a portion of the present building during the period from 1813 to 1822, when he owned it. He was a shoemaker and had his shop and a store there. In

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*SILAS H. ORCUTT, was born June 7, 1775, and married February 19, 1801, Abigail Gunn a sister of Mrs. William Barker. He lived on Wyoming Avenue below Hoyt Street and sold his property to Col. John W. Little, December 21, 1822, and moved from the township to Orcutt's Grove on Bowman's Creek.

1822 he sold the property to Colonel John W. Little, It was sold by the sheriff as the property of Mr. Little, January 1, 1844, to Charles Bennet and Henry M. Fuller, who conveyed it to Charles M. Leonard. During the time it was owned by Colonel Little and Mr. Leonard, a cabinet shop was located on part of the lot. The motive power for the turning lathe was a sweep at the side of the building to which a horse was attached. The small frame house, which has been removed to the rear of the Water Company office, was the old cabinet shop, and may have been the shoe shop and store of Mr. Orcutt. Mr. Leonard failed and it was sold by the sheriff April 10, 1861 to Zebulon B. Hoyt, and was then described, as containing a two story frame dwelling, and one and one half story frame dwelling and frame barn. Mr. Hoyt sold March 24, 1864, to Shepherd Goodwin, this property then described as passing two inches from the west corner of the new addition to the house on this lot built by Z. B. Hoyt. In 1897, James H. Frank* purchased it from Sarah J. Cool, daughter of Shepherd Goodwin†.

The lot at the southwest corner of Hoyt street and above the Goodwin property was sold by Elias Hoyt to David Fairchild‡, May 15, 1846. Mr. Fairchild erected the old house in later years known as the Gildersleeve house, and ran a plow factory and blacksmith shop there, until 1859 when the sheriff sold it, as his property to William C. Gildersleeve. Mr. Fairchild, later purchased from the Methodist Church Trustees, the lot, at the upper corner of Pringle street, then known as the parsonage lot, and conducted his blacksmith shop there.

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*WILLIAM FRANCK was born in Frankfort, Germany, in 1800, and died in 1877. He fought in the Battle of Waterloo under Blucher, and came to this country in 1816, first settling in Lancaster County, where he married Mary Zett. Shortly after 1850 he located on the Woodward farm and while living in Plymouth Township, the family was always identified with Kingston, several of his children living in the Borough or Township the greater part of their lives. His children were: Charles W. Franck, who removed to Illinois; James H., who lived on the Woodward farm; Franklin F.; Sophia, born in 1849, died 1919, married Robert Cooper; and Hannah. The three last named lived in Kingston.

†SHEPHERD GOODWIN, was the son of John Goodwin and grandson of Abraham and Lois King Goodwin, and was born at Wyoming in 1811, and died in Kingston, February 3, 1889. He married Caroline Johnsten, born in 1811, died January 9, 1890. Their children were; Sarah Jane married Abram Cool; Stephen B. born April 14, 1841, died October 5, 1846; Morgan W., born March 5, 1845, died June 18, 1856; Thomas W., born October 22, 1850, died September 18, 1875.

‡DAVID FAIRCHILD was born in Connecticut, May 8, 1807, and died in Kingston January 22, 1890. His wife Harriet Allen Fairchild, died April 12, 1875. Their children were: William, born April 9, 1836; Andrew, born May 29, 1837; Oris, born March 21, 1842, died January, 1907; Eliza, born April 20, 1845, died September 18, 1846; Sarah, born May 9, 1847, died December 17, 1923, married George W. Carr, who was the first florist in Kingston; Henry T. born March 23, 1849, died June 15, 1919; Hamilton, born March 23, 1849, died January 15, 1850; Charles born January 15, 1855; Hannah, born February 10, 1858, died November, 28 1859.

William N. Raymond for many years conducted a tailor shop and drug store in the village. The first photographer in Kingston was William Reeves, who in 1849 was listed as a Daguerre typist, and he was succeeded in 1855 by William H. Ward. William Norris* conducted a foundry in 1849, on the Avenue, opposite Reynolds' store, and later it was run, under the firm name of Norris & Lazarus.

In 1857, Thomas Somers† began a tailoring business in Kingston and he was here for many years still being in business at the time of his death.

Among those who were prominently identified with the political and business interests of Kingston Borough during the period from 1850 to 1865, were: A. H. Reynolds, Samuel Hoyt, Reuben Jones, Ira Carle, Reuben Marcy, C. W. Boughton, A. J. Roat, Patrick McPike, E. C. Starbird, Cornelius Robbins‡ Oliver Turner, Alfred Darte, Luther C. Darte and James Harris*; also H. A. Fonda, superintendent, J. M. Nicholson, train dispatcher and Ami D. Gilchrist, ticket agent of the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad.

In the period from 1865 to 1872, the following well known names first appear on the assessment lists: William G. Colley, James Dewitt, W. F. Church, Philip Edgar, A. J. Fairchild,

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*William Norris, was born in Connecticut, December 13, 1818, died December 3, 1880 married Elizabeth, born March 1, 1823, died January 17, 1897, daughter of John Lazarus, They had the following children: 1. John Lazarus, born August 1, 1844, died May 11, 1913, married August 12, 1866, Mary Susan Woodward Feegle, born January 12, 1850; children Mary Elizabeth, died young, Margaret Fender, married first Theodore Snyder, second Dr. Charles P. Knapp, and John Edward who married Gertrude Long; 2. Alice Laura, born September 24, 1850, died 1929, married Eugene Reynolds; 3. Lord Butler, born March 1, 1852, married Caroline Shiffer.

†Thomas Somers, was born in Ireland, September 9, 1819, and died October 31, 1906. He came to this country in 1848, and first located in New York and then removed to Kingston. He was a tailor by trade and followed it until his death. He married Susan Yeisley born in Monroe County, December 6, 1828, and their children were: Mary Elizabeth, born February 15, 1858, married Henry Newman; Arthur W., born September 4, 1860, died February 12, 1925; William Penn, born April 29 1863; Emma, born May 12, 1871.

‡Cornelius Robbins, born January 21, 1810, died 1895, was the son of John Robbins, born in New Jersey in 1785, died in 1831, who came to Hanover Township when he was eighteen years old, and owned the farm, where Sugar Notch Borough, is now. Cornelius Robbins married Hannah Wiggins, born February 15, 1808, died February 27, 1873. He served in the Civil War, as did his son Elias H. Mr. Robbins was one of the first to reside on College Street, in the house now occupied by his grandson Edward Robbins, and his children were: Abner, born February 12, 1831, died November 4, 1915; John, born June 2, 1833, died February 12, 1863; Mary, born November 9, 1840; Silas born October 27, 1842, died January 6, 1843; Elias Houghton, born October 27, 1844, died May 27, 1918, married Emma Prosser, born April 1852; Esther Lane born August 19, 1846.

*James Harris was born February 23, 1816 in New York state, died November 18, 1891, and married Sarah, born March 14, 1824, in Kingston, died January 2, 1866, daughter of William Jackson. Mr. Harris was a carpenter and cabinet maker. He was the father of the following children: Elizabeth E., born December 16, 1842, died December 23, 1891; Sarah Jane born July 14, 1846, died April 28, 1852; Martha N., born September 19, 1848, died December 20, 1853; James E., born August 15, 1851, married Alice Bulkley, born September 9, 1854; Emma, born April 23, 1858, died August 31, 1858; Stella, born September 2, 1862, died March 24, 1869.

Henry Gebler, Charles Hutchinson, John Lohman, David Miles, Elias H. Robbins, J. Bennet Smith, S. R. Smith, Andrew Strunk, Charles J. Turpin, L. L. Sprague, William Bryden, Charles Graham, Dr. Frederic Corss, John Bersch, Thomas D. Carle, James Collins, Morris Hull, Timothy McDonough, Amos Shorts, D. T. Bound, Abram Bound, Richard Payne, James H. Stetler, Joel Walp, James Hayward, Norman H. Leacock, L. D. Mott, Henry Fairchild, Forbes Vannan, Thomas Vannan, Thomas Weir, John D. Lewis, Calvin Dymond, John Sweitzer, John Wright, John Anderson, T. P. Culver, Thomas P. McFarlane, Peter Wolcott, P. A. Watt, and W. B. Pierce.

Christian Bach established his tailor shop in 1876, and A. Evans his drug store adjoining Edwards & Co's. store in 1878. The Hyndman bakery shop was in 1879 located on Main Street, on the site of the present Harry Dixon residence. Henry Van Scoy had a bakery shop on Wyoming Avenue in the building now occupied by E. F. Schmaltz.

The upper part of the present Kingston Borough remained farm land until recent times. There was the Butler farm, upon which stood the old Lord Butler house, (recently burned) along the ancient road which followed the high bank of the creek. Hon. Benjamin Dorrance and then his son Colonel Charles Dorrance occupied the old Dorrance homestead. Jacob Sharps* lived where the hospital is now located. The old house on the Avenue, just above the Pettebone switch was built before 1830 and was occupied by Ziba Hoyt, and there his distinguished son Governor Hoyt was born. Noah Pettebone built the other old house, just above it about 1850.

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*JACOB SHARPS, was born in Greenwich, Sussex County, N. J., September 29, 1755, and died in Kingston, November 18, 1843. He married Margaret Shafer. He came to Wyoming Valley in 1816, and in 1820, purchased the George Taylor tavern property at New Troy, In 1821 he purchased from the Athertons 311 acres of land extending along the west side of the Avenue from Pringle Street to above Division Street, in what is now Kingston Borough, Some of these lands he sold to his son Jacob Sharps, 2nd, who sold them to Thomas Pringle; and other portions he sold to Elisha Atherton. His children were: 1. John, born February 9, 1776, died March 18, 1868, married Martha Welsh. He lived for a time where the West Side Hospital is built and later removed to Wyoming and lived in the George Taylor tavern property. His wife died June 26, 1844, and he married second Mrs. Sarah Sine, born September 4, 1779, died April 18, 1858. His children were: I. Sarah, born January 17, 1800, died December 19, 1843, married Noah Pettebone; II. Elizabeth, died young; III. Elizabeth, born September 30. 1803, died July 8, 1847, married Hon. Henry Pettebone; IV. Phebe, born December 29, 1805, died October 7, 1890, married William Jacobs, born May 24, 1800, died May 7, 1878, and their children were: Martha, born December 7, 1833, died September 13, 1836, Henry Pettebone, born December 5, 1836, died September 6, 1884, John Sharps, born August 29, 1838, died September 5, 1912, Lewis Drake; Noah Pettebone; Mary Alice; William Sharps born June 24, 1851, married Elizabeth B. Jenkins; Helen born June 30, 1852, married Thomas B. Polen; V. Jacob, born November 8, 1807, died June 15, 1886, married Mary Ann Schooley, born January 14, 1814, died April 1, 1889, and their children were: John D.; Jesse; Sarah, born June 9,1836. died March 12, 1864. married Lawrence Myers and their children were: Rollin S., E. Oscar, Mary M., married John B. Yeager, and Fannie S., married Samuel Townend. Jacob Sharps lived on the avenue where the Nesbitt Hospital is located; VI. William born February

The old Oliver Pettebone residence occupied the site of the present brick block, now owned by Dr. Thomas; and the Noah Pettebone house stood about on the site of the Pettebone breaker. By the river bank, nearly opposite the mouth of Mill Creek, and a little south of Church Street, on the knoll, which has rarely been flooded, stood the old ferry house. This ferry was established in Colonial times to afford easy access to Chapman's mill on Mill Creek. The first ferryman was probably Parshall Terry, whose cabin may have been located on the same knoll but north of Church street, and on lot No. 19, which he then owned. This ferry was continued until more recent times, and was last known as Perkins' ferry.

James Eley* lived above the S. B. Vaughn residence having purchased, the John Gore farm in 1842. A little north of Church Street and east of Rutter Avenue, and near the large farm barn still standing; on a lane, which at this point ran east of Rutter Avenue, was the farm house long occupied by Almon Church. On this lane, (now Rutter Avenue) just south of the Forty Fort line was the farm house of Anson Church. This building is now owned and is the residence of Harry Sordoni.

20, 1810, died October 12, 1850, married Sarah M. Breese, and their children were Elizabeth, born 1835, died 1852, Stephen J., born April 29, 1837, died September 8, 1901, married Catherine E. Shoemaker, George, born February 26, 1839, died February 7, 1873, Edith, died 1844, Fannie M., died 1846, Martha died 1846, Ruth A., died 1849; VII. Edith, born April 3, 1812, died November 15, 1837, married George Lazarus; VIII. Peter born October 2, 1814, died April 26, 1897, married Elizabeth Breese and lived in Exeter; IX. Margaret Ann, born February 14, 1817, died November 17, 1901, married Freeman Breese; X. Martha born February 26, 1819, died May 2, 1847, married James S. Fuller; XI. John, born November 28, 1821, died August 28, 1903, married Catherine B. Breese, and he conducted the Wyoming Ferry. Their children were, Mary Margaret, born October 27, 1843, died November 18, 1908, married Jacob I. Shoemaker, Lot, born April 23, 1845, married Cecelia Langdon, Elizabeth, married Luke Orr; James born December 24, 1850, Annie born December 7, 1852, married Alexander Watson, Ida, born December 15, 1857, married William S. LaBar. 2. Edith, daughter of Jacob and Margaret Shafer Sharps was born June 3, 1791 and died September 28, 1847, married Henry Hice born October 17, 1784, died February 17, 1865. He removed to New Troy in 1817, and was a prominent citizen of Kingston Township for many years. Among their children were: Mary Ann, born November 7, 1810, died February 23, 1887, married first Robert P. Chapin, second Lewis G. Ensign, Amy born July 1, 1816, married David Cosner, Jacob Sharps, born June 14, 1818, died 1876; Catherine, born June 13, 1821, married Benjamin Couch, George B., born August 27, 1823, died May 27, 1904, married Emily Mathers; John, born August 21, 1825 died January 20, 1897; Eliza Jane, died July 9, 1852, married Henry L. Marvin; William born July 7, 1833, died October 28, 1886.

*James Eley was born December 5, 1794 in Wilkes-Barre and died in Kingston November 17, 1879. His father Jacob Eley, born in Chester County, came here in 1787 as chain bearer for John Nicholson, Surveyor General of Pennsylvania, and he helped make the Nicholson surveys. James Eley was connected with the stage business on the old Wilkes-Barre and Easton turnpike, in connection with Colonel Miller Horton; and they also ran a line of mail coaches from Wilkes-Barre to Carbondale. In 1820 or 1821, Mr. Eley removed to the Wind Gap where he conducted the well known Rosscommon Hotel for years. In 1842 he removed to Kingston Township. James Eley married February 12, 1820, Elizabeth Sox, born April 2, 1805, died December 12, 1845, and their children were: 1. Elizabeth born August 7, 1821; 2. John S. born August 24, 1823, died, 1885, married first Anna M. Levers, born 1824, died 1862, and their children were: I. Elizabeth, born October 19, 1847, died September 17, 1927, married Henry F. Johnson, born September 18, 1846, died February 26, 1928. Henry F. Johnson was a son of Priestley Johnson of Wilkes-Barre and a descendant of Rev. Jacob Johnson, a Congregational minister, who was a missionary among the Iroquois Indians before the Revolution, and later came to Wyoming Valley as the first regular minister of the Connecticut settlers. II. Jane R., born 1849, died 1890, married Albert Brace; III. Anna C., born 1858, In 1830, there was a considerable agitation among those living in Kingston, to have the village incorporated as a borough; and as a result of this movement a bill providing for the incorporation of a limited territory about Kingston Corners, as Kingston Borough, was introduced in the House of Representatives, at the sessions of the Legislature in 1831. The rest of the township opposed this, and on February 22, 1831, the Honorable Benjamin Dorrance, who was a member of the House, presented a petition against the incorporation. The project failed and was not revived until some twenty years later.

The construction and opening of the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad in 1856, augmented the population of the village, and it was then determined to incorporate it as a borough. A petition was presented and in accordance therewith, the Court made a decree, November 23, 1857, incorporating the Borough of Kingston and defining its boundaries as follows

"Beginning on the road of Plymouth and Kingston Townships, at Toby's Creek on the East side; running along said road South 31 degrees East 144 perches to a creek known as branch of Toby's creek, thence up said creek its various courses and distances to the West side of the stone bridge on Main road from Kingston to Wilkes-Barre; thence North 78 degrees East across lands of Chester Butler Estate and land of Elijah Reynolds 183 rods to line between land of James Butler and E. Reynolds; thence along said line North 31 degrees West 132.4 perches to the corner of the Presbyterian shed; thence North 45 degrees West 14 perches; thence North 31 degrees West along line of George Price and Jacob Sharps 88 perches to Toby's Creek; thence down said creek South 3 degrees West 21 perches; thence South 49 degrees West across land of George Price, Isaac Tripp and part of Thomas Pringle 55 rods; thence South 75 degrees West 24 perches; thence South 60 degrees West on land of heirs of Elias Hoyt 32 perches; thence South 80 degrees West 15 perches; and South 63 degrees West 15 perches to line of Nos. 4 and 5 Third Division Kingston Township; thence on land of M. F. Myers South 79 degrees West 28.7 perches; thence West 31 perches to line of Nos. 2 and 3; thence across No. 2 South 65 degrees West 26 perches to line of No. 1; thence South 48 degrees West on land of A. Skeer 16 perches; thence South 64 degrees West 12.6 perches to the Beginning.

The place and time of the first election was fixed at the public house of Thomas Wambold, on December 15, 1857, between the hours of 1 and 6 P. M. Ira Carle was appointed Judge of

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died 1923. John S. Eley married second Matilda Levers and they had one son John S. Eley, 3. Sarah J., born September 8, 1825; 4. Jacob born August 28, 1827, died October 30, 1902: married Matilda Gould, born April 11, 1834, died December 19, 1911, and their children were; I. Mary Ellen born May 25, 1854, died June 21, 1911; II. Thomas J., born August 26, 1856, III. Harry J., born May 16, 1863, died March 9, 1886; IV. Nancy Drake, born September 20; 1867, married Edward Robinson; V. Nelson Wells born July 8, 1869; VI. Matilda G., born July 15, 1875 died November 19, 1883. 5. James born April 21, 1829, died June 19, 1842; 6. Ellen D., born April 3, 1831, married Benjamin Chapman; 7. Mary A., born August 2, 1833, married A. DeReemer; 8. George S., born February 4, 1836; 9. Thomas born May 30, 1838 died 1906, married Caroline Page, born 1853, died 1877; 10. Nancy, born February 28, 1840; 11. James F. H., born June 24, 1842, died 1905, married Isabel Snyder, born 1847, died 1924. He conducted the Eley House at Plymouth for years and his children were: Elizabeth, who married Chauncey L. Nagle, and Eno Eley; 12. Deborah, born September 30, 1845, married Mr. Mundy.

election; Reuben Marcy and Abram Reynolds, inspectors of election; and A. C. Church to give notice of said election.

The house holders in Kingston with the number in each house at the time of the incorporation were:

Anson A. Church 5; Addison C. Church 6; Adoniram Covert 6; Ira Carle 8; Phineas Culver 4; A. H. Coon 4; Philip Cyphers 5; Elizabeth Culver 3; Miner Carle 2; Mary Ann Corwin 4; William Barker 2; Lydia Bailey 3; Joshua Belding 9; Elizabeth Bird 1; Charles W. Boughton 4; Martin L. Brown 6; Maria Boughton 2; A. Brace 5; Thomas Dillon 6; John Dewitt 4; William Edwards 4; David Fairchilds 8; Thomas Fender 6; Albert S. Foster 4; John J. Flanigan 7; Clarissa Foster 4; John R. Gates 4; Philip Goodwin 10; Abram Goodwin 4; Samuel Griffin 3; James Greenwalt 8; Charles W. Gedding 11; Frank Helme 6; Nancy Hoyt 4; Jacob Hopple 5; Philip Hoover 11; Chester Harvey 3; Lois Hoyt 3; Mary R. Hoyt 6; Samuel Hoyt 7; James Harris 4; Hannah Jones 4; Charles Jackson 7; Reuben Jones 2; John Jackson 6; John W. Little 3; George W. Little 2; John C. P. Little 4; Charles M. Leonard 7; William Loveland 5; Reuben Nelson 4; Edward Pringle 3; Thomas Pringle 9; George Price 4; Samuel C. Phillips 9; Francis A. Page 9; Bester Payne 3; Aaron Rumsey 5; Cornelius Robbins 5; George Remmel 7; William N. Raymond 9; George Reese 7; William C. Reynolds 10; Abner Robbins 2; John Pearce 6; Sally Amn Roat 9; Andrew J. Roat 3; A. H. Reynolds 3; Albert Skeer 8; Francis Smith 3; Elizabeth Shoemaker 5; Thomas Somers 3; John Sorber 12; Thomas Slocum 5; A. Safford 3; H. P. Smith 2; Giles Slocum 4; Robert H. Tubbs 7; Isaac Tripp 7; Sarah Turpin 7; Cornelius VanBuskirk 3; Elisha Van Buskirk 2; Thomas Wambold 9; Marshall G. Whitney 4; Charles Warner 6; Francis C. Woodhouse 5; Samuel Worman 5; E. D. Whiston 125; Daniel Young 7; William C. Norris 5; D. G. Sligh 6.

This makes the total population at the time of incorporation five hundred ninety eight. The large number accounted to E. D. Whiston, is explained by the fact, that Mrs. Edward D. Whiston was stewardess of Wyoming Seminary, and the number of boarding students was then 125.

The streets of Kingston Borough were laid out as the town grew. Market Street to the depot was laid out from near the residence of P. M. Goodwin on September 3, 1860 and the width was fixed at fifty feet. On January 28, 1861, the court confirmed absolutely its previous decree and fixed the width of the road, from Main Street to Seminary Street at forty feet, and from Seminary Street to the depot at fifty feet. A decree was made November 28, 1870, confirming the laying out of Second Street now Maple Street, from Depot Street, now Market Street, northward to the line of Frank Helme's land, at a width of fifty feet. The extension of this street (now South Maple Avenue) southward from Depot Street was made November 27, 1871 and the width was fixed at fifty feet.

By ordinance, passed September 23, 1872, Pringle Street was laid, commencing on Wyoming Avenue and thence along the line between estate of Thomas Pringle, and estate of Elias Hoyt to the township line forty feet in width, and twenty feet on each side of the line. By ordinance passed, July 12, 1872, a public road (Hoyt Street) was laid from Main Street (Wyoming Avenue) to the borough line, forty feet in width.

By court action, to No. 25 of 1872, decree made November 19, 1875, Union Street was laid out, from a point in the public road between Atherholt's grist mill and Charles Hutchison's breaker to Wyoming Avenue at the stone bridge, twenty five feet above John Dorrance's farm house, fifty feet in width.

By ordinance passed April 12, 1871, Maple Street was laid out from the line of Frank Helme northward to the township line, now Division Street, but was not opened. Peirce Street was widened to sixty feet by ordinance passed June 4, 1889. This was occasioned by the building of the first electric street car line which extended over this street, up the Avenue and by Bennet Street to Luzerne.

By court action, September 9, 1891, Slocum Street was extended from the Kingston Coal Co. railroad to Pringle Street, and the width was fixed at fifty feet.

By action of the court to No. 375 September Sessions 1891, the borough was divided into four wards: as follows: First, all east of Wyoming Avenue, Second, all west of the Avenue and above the northerly side of lot No. 5, Pringle lane; Third all between westerly side of the avenue and north of Plymouth Township line and to the Lackawanna tracks; Fourth all west of the Lackawanna tracks. By this order, the number of councilmen and school directors was fixed at two in each ward.

By decree of the court made September 23, 1893, all the land, between the old and new creek bed, and the old creek bed and the Delaware Lackawanna & Western tracks was annexed to Kingston Borough. About 1890 the railroad company by agreement, with the property owners shifted Toby's Creek from a point above Division Street to a point a little above the freight depot, to the west side of their right of way. Prior to that time the creek ran between these points, along the present line of Schuyler Avenue.

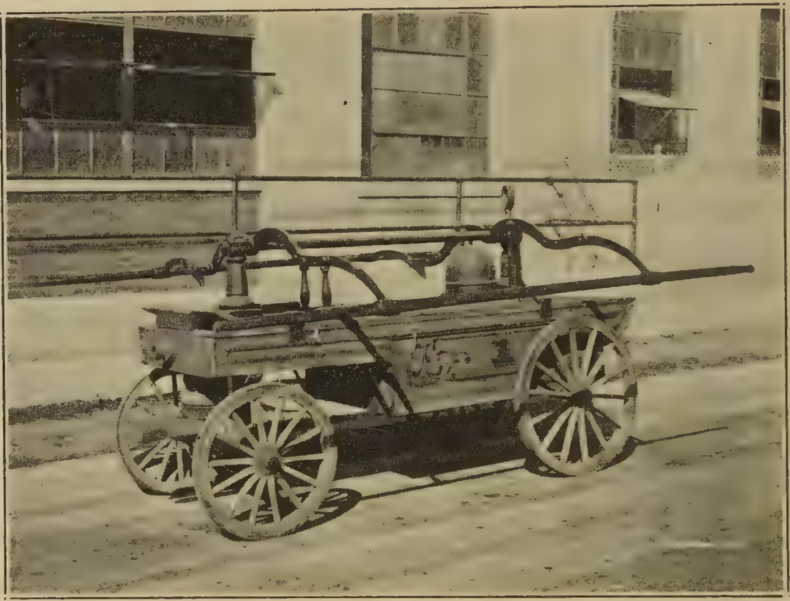
The boundary line between Dorranceton and Kingston was in dispute for some time and the matter was submitted to the court, a decree being made September 21, 1898, defining it as follows: Beginning at a point in the division line between George Price and Jacob Sharps on Division Street, thence to center of Wyoming Avenue, thence along center of said avenue in a southwesterly direction 254 feet to a point the intersection with the center line of Butler Street, thence in a southeasterly direction along the center of Butler Street to a set stone marking the position, the corner of the old Presbyterian shed; thence between the estates of James Butler and Frank Helme or on the line between certified lots Nos. 28 and 28."

By ordinance passed January 8, 1902, that part of Kingston Township from the Lackawanna tracks to Grove Street, and between Division Street, and the line of the Myers estate was annexed to Kingston Borough.

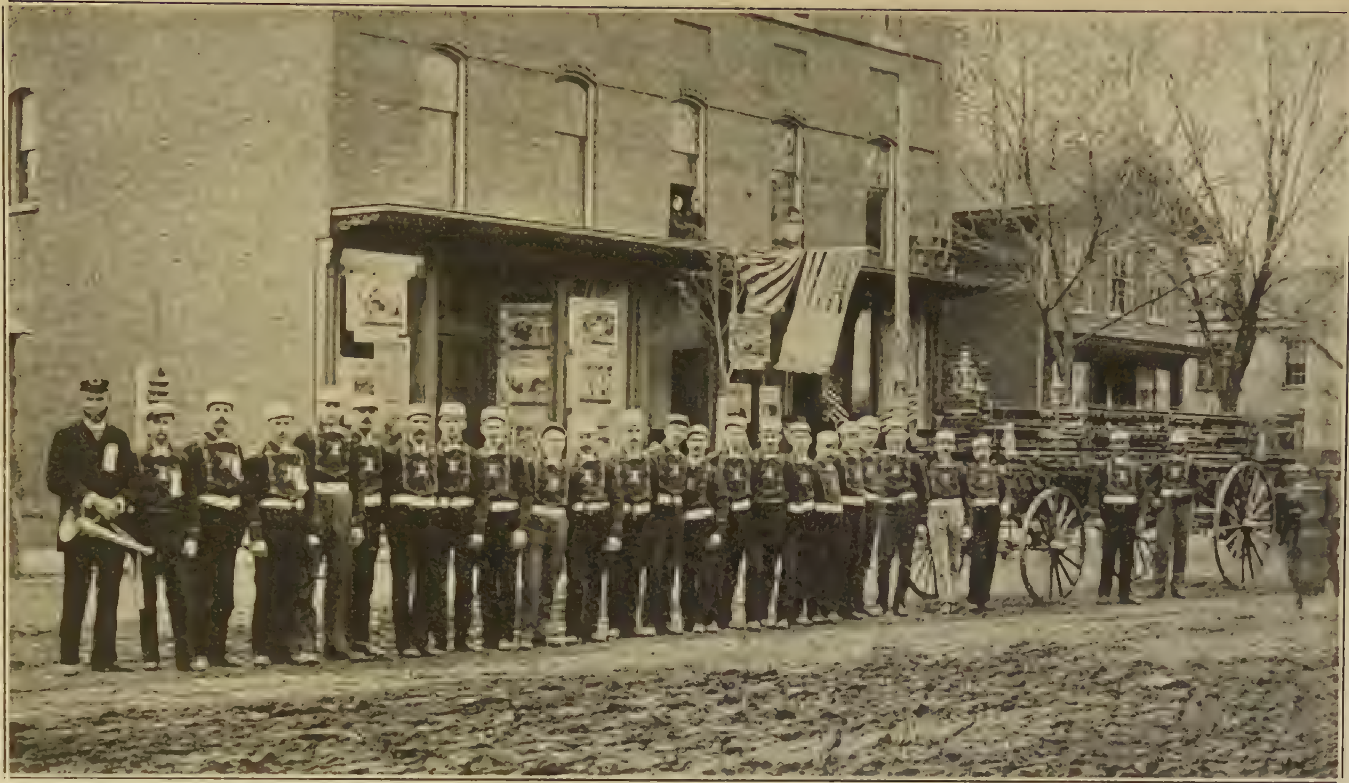
In 1921, the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Wilkes-Barre made an effort to annex the Borough of Dorranceton to Wilkes-Barre. This movement was resented by a large majority of the people of Kingston and Dorranceton; but the movement was especially dangerous because of the large influx of new people who had built homes in the latter borough. In order to counteract the movement, Kingston and Dorranceton determined to hold a special election to vote on the question of the consolidation of the two boroughs. An intense campaign was carried on by the Wilkes-Barre people, who spent a large amount of money in advertising, holding meetings, and in other methods of influencing voters. The election was held on July 19, 1921, and the result was, votes for consolidation 2244, against consolidation 1169.

As a result of the election the boroughs joined together, under the name of Kingston. The Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce was not, however, satisfied with the result and in 1926, began a movement for annexation of Kingston and other boroughs to the city. The election was held November 2, 1926 and the result was decisive, the vote being for annexation 1740, against annexation 4724.

The growth of the borough and the erection of many new buildings after the opening of the railroad, and especially the destruction of the Seminary buildings, had not failed to impress, the people with the necessity of a fire fighting organization. Consequently in 1861, a number of young men effected an organization. Abram Nesbitt was the first treasurer and about $250 was raised by subscription. With it, the little old pumping engine was purchased and duly christened, at a celebration held at the liberty pole, which stood on a little triangular plot of ground in front of the old stone house. Some money had been left over, and this was used to purchase a plentiful supply of good things to eat and drink, and a glorious time was had by the young firemen. A small building was erected on the school house lot at the corner of College street and Belding alley and the engine was kept there for years. Later when Lorenzo Curtis was the principal one in the company, the engine was kept in one of the Curtis buildings on Curtis alley. This first organization later became Engine and Hose Company No. 1. The first chief was either John D. Carle or John Foster, and among the early members were: John D. Carle, Lorenzo Curtis, Elias Robbins Henry Hawke, James Frank, Thomas D. Carle,



THE FIRST FIRE ENGINE IN KINGSTON BOROUGH — A HAND PUMPER, PURCHASED IN 1861 OR 1862



The VanSchoick Hook and Ladder Company of Kingston Borough — Taken in front of Dymond & Lewis Hall — Tubbs Drug Store is the building next and the one beyond is the store erected by Elias Hoyt in 1810 (now Swainbank's store). The firemen reading from the left are: A. J. Roat, Edward Stanley, James D. Hyndman, A. E. Miller, Harry Johnson, Theodore Strunk, Crittenden Coon, B. G. Coon, Harry Waddell, James Edwards, Pierce Wolcott, Guy Moore, Charles Webb, James Harris, Reese Griffith, Thomas Waddell, Ralph Shaver, Charles Deitrich, George Bonawitz, Lawrence Shepherd, George Starbird, Edward Hunter, Frank Gates. The two colored men are Thomas **Adams and Oscar Washington.**

Abram Nesbitt, James Roat, A. J. Roat, John Foster, James Hayward, John Reese, Henry Fairchild, William F. Church and Thomas Hutchins.

Before 1890 another fire company was formed, known as the Van Schoick Independent Hook and Ladder Company. Subscriptions were obtained and a hook and ladder truck was purchased, and a building where it was kept, and the meetings held, was erected at the corner of Hoyt Street and Wyoming Avenue, where Dr. A. B. Miller's residence now stands.

The first water works were built by Alfred H. Coon, who pumped the water from a well, in the rear of his mill, into a large elevated tank, from whence it was distributed. Pipes were laid from his mill on Market Street to the Corners and from there up Market Street as far as College Street, and up the Avenue as far as Hoyt Street. He sold this plant to Daniel Edwards, who started the Kingston Water Co., in connection with his coal operations. The Kingston Water Company became a part of the Spring Brook Water Company system in the early nineties. Until the Spring Brook Water Company pipes were laid most of the supply was obtained from wells.

Communication between the Lackawanna depot and Wilkes-Barre was first made by means of busses, but only three years after the railroad was opened, a street car line was projected. April 14, 1859, an Act was approved, incorporating the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston Passenger Railway Company. The amount of capital stock was fixed at $25,000, and the road was to run from the Public Square, Wilkes-Barre to the Lackawanna depot at Kingston. By a subsequent act of the legislature the amount of capital stock was increased to $100,000. The incorporators were: L. D. Shoemaker, S. H. Puterbaugh, A. R. Brundage, Thomas M. Atherton, Ezra B. Chase, E. S. Goodrich, Alexander Farnham, A. H. Reynolds, Payne Pettebone, Samuel Wadhams, John Urquhart, C. T. Ingham, P. C. Gritman, Charles Dorrance, A. C. Lanning, G. M. Harding, W. Lee, Jr., H. M. Fuller, George P. Steele, W. W. Ketcham, and Charles Bennet. The officers in 1866 were: A. H. Coon, president, W. R. Maffit, C. S. Coon, Col. M. Haumnan, J. D. Coon, and H. M. Hoyt, directors. This passenger railway was built in 1866, by A. H. Coon and John Keller of Larksville and was operated by them for some time, but they sold their interest to W. J. and Harrison Harvey, who ran it until, acquired by the Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming Valley Traction Co. The cars were drawn by horses, and it did a large business. One of the first employees was Horace Welch, who worked for the company for years.

Horse Car — The Wilkes-Barre and Kingston Passenger Railway

There was an eating stand, confectionery and cigar shop at the depot which was carried on for years by Maurice Gebler.

On November 9, 1809, the Kingston Postoffice was established, with Henry Buckingham as postmaster, and it was conducted by him at his store until 1822. It is probable from that time that the community around Kingston Corners, ceased to be called Myersburg, and from thence was always known as Kingston. This postoffice served at first the people as far north as Exeter, all over the mountain and down to Huntington, and those of Plymouth. The successors of Mr. Buckingham, together with dates of appointment were:

Thomas Barbridge July 10, 1822; David Baldwin May 20, 1829; William C. Reynolds April 21, 1830; Elijah W. Reynolds October 28, 1836; William C. Reynolds December 8, 1838; Oliver Helme October 11, 1841; Thomas Myers February 3, 1845; Addison C. Church May 29, 1849; Abram H. Reynolds May 7, 1853; Abram Goodwin June 25, 1861; Dennis R. Prendegast April 5, 1857; Abram Goodwin April 15, 1869; William F. Church March 4, 1878; John N. Pettebone March 22, 1882; Henry Van Scoy March 29, 1886; David S. Clark April 16, 1890; Henry Van Scoy June 29, 1894; Thomas P. Macfarlane July 19, 1898; Christian Bach March 3, 1899; Thomas P. Macfarlane October 17, 1901. The office was discontinued August 31, 1904, and became a branch of Wilkes-Barre.

NEWSPAPERS

April 4, 1832, Sharp D. Lewis, began the publication of a weekly newspaper in Kingston Village. He called it the "Wyoming Republican," and it was published every Wednesday morning. It was a well printed, well edited country newspaper of four pages, six columns to the page. One hundred years ago, newspapers were not very newsy in the modern sense. They contained very little local news, save brief obituary notices, and one must generally seek the advertisements to glean a knowledge of local conditions, the news columns being largely devoted to foreign news, and formal essays on literature and morals. However, now and then one finds an item of rare local interest, and in the issue of the "Wyoming Republican" of April 18, 1832, Mr. Lewis gives the following interesting description of the Kingston of that day:

"Perhaps it would not be amiss to say something more immediately in relation to the fine little town in which this paper is published. It is beautifully situated, within one mile of the Susquehanna river and contains a number of good buildings. Business generally is tolerably good and the place is improving. There are here a postoffice, four stores, two cabinet shops, one millinery shop, one saddler's shop, three shoemaker shops, one tailor shop, one tannery, one segar manufactory, one comb manufactory, two blacksmith shops, one tavern, two carriage and wagon making shops, one tallow chandler, and one soap manufacturer." Mr. Lewis also mentions the needed repairs being made to the tavern (now Exchange Hotel) by Major Oliver Helme, its new owner; and also the cultivation of silk worms, then being carried on in the village by Anson Morton.

In this and other issues of about the same time, we learn that the following occupations were followed by: blacksmith, Albert Skeer; carriage makers Jerome Blakslee and Abner P. Winchell, succeeded by Cyrus Adams; cabinet makers John W. Little, Anson Morton and Francis R. Chapman; merchants Samuel Thomas, Harrison Palmer, James Barnes, Elias Hoyt, and Gaylord & Reynolds, saddler, Charles Jackson, tailor, Reuben Jones; physician, Dr. S. Wilson, office at Helme's tavern; milliners A. and E. Haff; shoemakers Gilbert Lewis and Joseph

T. Preston; soap and candle maker Levi Hoyt; clock and watch maker Thomas F. Wooster; machinist William Barker, who maintained a good turning lathe and could turn iron of every description.

In 1834, Leonard Blakslee was keeping a confectionery stand and restaurant, where oysters in all styles were served, two doors above Helme's tavern, probably in one of the little old store buildings still standing.

In 1835, Mr. Lewis* purchased the Wyoming Herald, published in Wilkes-Barre, and consolidated it with the Republican, continuing to print and publish it at Kingston, as the "Wyoming Republican and Herald," until 1837, when he sold it to Miner S. Blackman and Henry Webb, who conducted it until April 11, 1838, when Mr. Webb retired. Mr. Blackman sold the paper April 3, 1839, to S. P. Collings, who consolidated it with the Democratic Journal under the name of the Republican Farmer and Democratic Journal" published at Wilkes-Barre.

The "Kingston Guardian", was established in the Borough in 1858 by Messrs. Kitchen and Dean, but was published only a short time, being removed to Plymouth, where it was published under the name of "The Plymouth Register."

After an intermission of twenty-eight years, during which time no newspaper was published in Kingston Township, on December 9, 1886, Martin Pooley brought to Kingston, the first edition of the "Wyoming Valley Times", which had been printed at Nanticoke by M. E. Saunders. In a few weeks, Mr. Saunders opened a printing office in the Darte building on Main street, nearly opposite Page street, and published his newspaper there until 1887, when he sold it to B. Fred Dilley

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Sharp Delaney Lewis was born in Philadelphia, January 2nd, 1804. His father, Josiah Lewis was the only son of the celebrated lawyer William Lewis, who was leader of the Philadelphia bar, during and immediately after the Revolution, and of whom Horace Binney said "He was deemed by other cities to be the most able man at the bar." Josiah Lewis came to Kingston Township in 1809, where he followed the business of a surveyor. He resided here and in Wilkes-Barre, until 1834, when he removed to his farm, in Lackawanna Township where he died in 1851. He married Margaret Delany March 23, 1799, and she died October 31st, 1852. They were the parents of eleven children, all except the first four and the last born in Kingston Township: Margaret Delany, born January 31st, 1800, died March 15, 1853; William, born March 7, 1801, died May 6, 1889; Sharp Delany, born January 2, 1804; Frances Baldwin born September 1807, died April 15, 1860; Martha Allen, born August 20, 1809, died July 3, 1882; Josiah, born October 13, 1811, died March 17, 1815; Mary Ann born December 9, 1813, died September, 1848; Josiah, born November 15, 1815, died July 11, 1890; Samuel Allen, born June 28, 1817, died May 31, 1886; Phoebe E., born June 23, 1820, died June 15, 1897; Thomas R. D., born August, 1822.

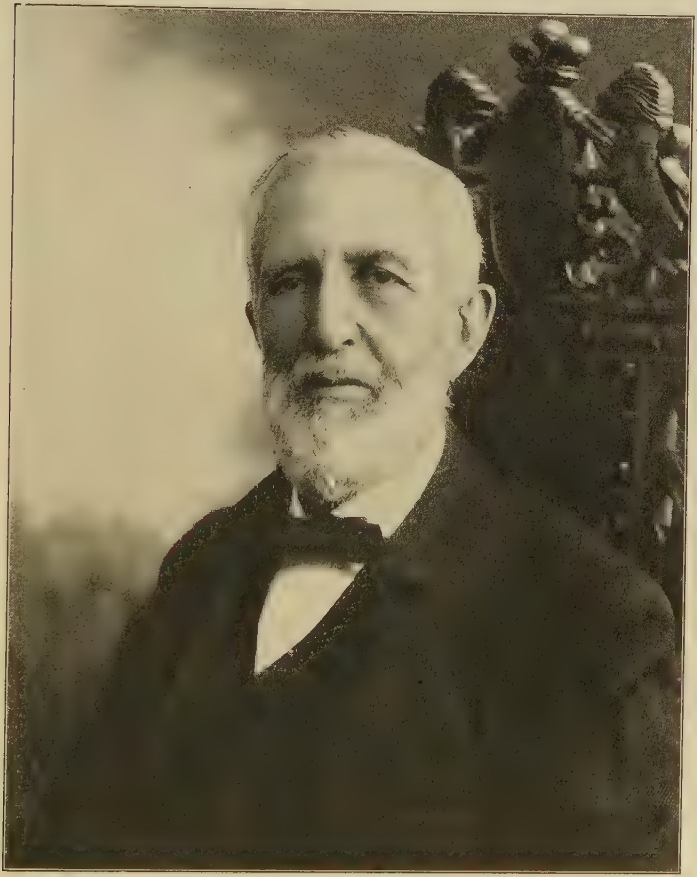
Sharp D. Lewis began his active life as a printer and publisher, editing and publishing the "Wyoming Republican" in Kingston from 1832, until 1837, when he sold it. During this time he also published the first history of Wyoming, that written by Isaac Chapman. He was one of the original trustees of Wyoming Seminary, and was engaged in the mercantile business until 1840, when he removed to Wilkes-Barre. His store was in the building which stood where the Light Company office is located. Mr. Lewis died March 25, 1879.

and Robert P. Robinson. The latter soon sold his interest to Martin Pooley, and the paper was published by Dilley and Pooley, until December 1888, when it was purchased by A. A. Holbrook. Mr. Holbrook began to publish a daily edition under the name of "The Morning Times", December 4, 1889, it having been published as a semi-weekly from August until that time. During this time the printing office was located in a two story frame building, which stood where John V. Heffernan's residence, now is on Market street. One summer, while Mr. Holbrook was running the daily paper, he had a distinguished assistant for a time, in the person of George Francis Train. This celebrated character who in his colourful career, did many astonishing things, such as promoting the Union Pacific Railroad, founding the modern Omaha, and leading one of the Paris Communes, spent the summer of 1890 in Kingston. He came here with John D. Jones, who was his private secretary. Mr. Jones was the son of William Jones who lived on Chestnut Street near Pringle Street and it was with this family that Mr. Train stayed. Many of the neighboring children spent delightful hours in the shaded dooryard of the old Pringle farm house, where lived "Uncle Tommy" Culver, and where Mr. Train loved to sit and regale the children with peanuts and candy, and the wonderful stories he could tell so well. This versatile man was an accomplished writer and speaker, and was naturally attracted to the village newspaper office, where he turned in and assisted the young and quite presumptuous Mr. Holbrook in getting out the "Kingston Morning Times". It is needless to say, this little sheet was the best edited newspaper in Northeastern Pennsylvania, on the days when George Francis Train wrote the editorials.

In 1891, Mr. Holbrook sold the Times to Charles B. Snyder, who moved it to Wilkes-Barre, and changed the name to "Wilkes-Barre Times", where it was conducted by him for a short time and subsequently by Liddon and R. J. Flick, until merged with the "Evening Leader", under the name of the "Times-Leader."

THE NESBITT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

During the winter of 1911-12, a number of doctors residing in the vicinity of Kingston, who realized the great need of a hospital on the west side of the river, initiated a movement for the establishment of such an institution. Dr. D. H. Lake of Kingston was the leader in the beginning; and he solicited the support of Abram Nesbitt, who promptly responded to the appeal by purchasing the large residence and ample grounds on Wyoming Avenue, then known as the Sharps residence. This was converted into a hospital; and numerous people in the surrounding towns contributed generously to its equipment. The ladies of each town formed auxiliary organizations, and have labored earnestly ever since for the success of the institution.



Abram Nesbitt

The Nesbitt West Side Hospital was chartered May 15, 1912, and the first board of directors was composed of: Abram Nesbitt, Abram G. Nesbitt, Sterling R. Catlin, Theodore L. Newell, David H. Lake, M. D., William T. Payne, Thomas Thomas, Luther C. Darte, S. M. Wolfe, M. D., B. J. Cobleigh, M. D., R. A. Phillips, and E. M. Rosser.

Mr. Nesbitt contributed sufficient money during his lifetime, to maintain the institution and upon his death his son Abram G. Nesbitt did likewise. In 1917, Mr. Nesbitt purchased the Gangloff residence for a nurses home. Abram Nesbitt died in September 1920, and his son Abram G. Nesbitt carried on munificiently, the work his father had begun. During the latter part of his life he was confined to his bed by illness, and during that time he planned the present magnificent buildings. In 1927, the Nesbitt West Side Hospital was closed after having served the needs of over twenty thousand patients during the fifteen years of its existence. The old building was torn down and the present one erected in its place, at a cost including furnishings of approximately $850,000. Mr. Abram G. Nesbitt made provision before his death for this expense; and further provided an endowment of approximately $500,000. It is safe to say that the benefactions of the Nesbitts to this institution, since it was founded, aggregate a sum close to two million dollars

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*ABRAM NESBITT, was born in Plymouth Township, December 29, 1831, the son of James Nesbitt, who was born in Plymouth, October 15, 1790, and died October 9, 1840. His wife Mary, born June 2, 1791, died December 3, 1864, was the daughter of Philip Shupp. James Nesbitt was a grandson of James Nesbitt who first came to Wyoming Valley in 1769 from Orange County, New York, and fought in the Battle of Wyoming, being one of the few survivors. He settled in Plymouth Township and was appointed one of the first justices of the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County in 1787. His grandson, James, father of Abram Nesbitt, resided on the old Nesbitt farm, along the new state highway, which runs through the narrows from Kingston to Plymouth, and near the Delaware & Hudson Railroad bridge, until 1832, when having been elected sheriff, he removed to Wilkes-Barre. He was re-elected in 1835, and afterwards served a term in the legislature. In March, 1849 Abram Nesbitt removed with his widowed mother, to Kingston Village, where he continued to reside during the remainder of his life. He was educated at Wyoming Seminary, and studied surveying, under the direction of his brother-in-law Samuel Hoyt, and followed the business of a surveyor until 1864.

He was one of the organizers of the Second National Bank, vice president of it in 1871, and president from January 1877, until his death. In 1870, Mr. Nesbitt was appointed a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Poor District, representing the Borough of Kingston. Mr. Nesbitt was a member of the Town Council and a school director of Kingston Borough for many years and always took an active interest in the public affairs of the town. He was one of the organizers and one of the largest stockholders of the Spring Brook Water Company. In January 1897, he became a director of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company. Mr. Nesbitt was a trustee of Wyoming Seminary for many years and he and his son Abram G. Nesbitt have been its chief benefactors. He erected Nesbitt Science Hall, completed in 1894, and gave liberally to the support of the Seminary for years. He founded the Nesbitt Hospital. Mr. Nesbitt was a man of great wealth, but simple in his tastes, and modest in his manner. He died September 26, 1920.

Abram Nesbitt married September 2, 1862 Sara Myers Goodwin, born September 30, 1832, died February 22, 1894, and their children were: Walter James, born September 22, 1863, died April 20, 1864; George Francis, born January 24, 1865, died November 27, 1900, The new hospital was opened November 27, 1929; and the officers of the institution at that time were: Abram Nesbitt 2nd, President; Albert D. Shonk, Vice President; Edward M. Rosser, Secretary-Treasurer; Harry B. Schooley, William T. Payne, David H. Lake, M. D., Thomas Thomas, John B. Vaughn, Walter E. Lewis, E. Bow Mulligan, Samuel W. Rhoads, Alfred W. Grover, M. D., Directors, Percy B. Ingham, Business Manager; Margaret Templeton, R. N., Directress of Nurses.

DORRANCETON BOROUGH

The history of this portion of the present Kingston Borough is so closely connected with Kingston, that it is treated therewith; and in this section is only given its political history. The decree was made June 20, 1887, incorporating Dorranceton Borough, named in honor of the Dorrance family, and defining its boundaries as follows: Beginning at the middle of the Susquehanna river in line of Kingston Township and Plymouth Township line, thence up the center of said river about 500 perches to the line between Colonel C. Dorrance and L. Myers thence along said line north 34 degrees 30 minutes west 335 perches to the center of the Main road; thence down the center of said road south 41 degrees 30 minutes west 14 perches; thence along line of Forty Fort borough and lots Nos. 18 and 19 Third division north 34 degrees 30 minutes west 100 perches to the D. L. & W. R. R.; thence along said railroad south 41 degrees 30 minutes west 218 perches to a corner; thence between lots Nos. 10 and 11 the line of Kingston Borough south 34 degrees 30 minutes east 100 perches to the center of Main road; thence down center of said road south 41 degrees 30 minutes west 18 perches to a corner; thence along another line of said borough of Kingston and between lots 28 and 29 of the second division south 34 degrees 30 minutes east 140 perches to a corner; thence along another line of Kingston Borough in a south west direction 270 perches to the Kingston and Plymouth Township line;

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graduated from Yale University in 1887, and was admitted to the Bar of Luzerne County in 1890; Abram Goodwin, born November 18, 1866; Ralph, born January 9, 1869, died February 18, 1875; Sarah Nesbitt Smythe, born September 12, 1872, died January 4, 1918; Frederick, born June 23, 1875, died June 24, 1911.

Abram G. Nesbitt was educated at Wyoming Seminary, and was early associated with his father in the management of their great business interests. Due to his influence and support the Wales Adder Machine Company located its plant at Kingston. He succeeded his father as president of the Second National Bank. He gave largely to the support of Wyoming Seminary and built the magnificent stadium of the Seminary athletic field as a memorial to his brother George F. Nesbitt. He was the chief benefactor of the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital; and planned the buildings, provided the means for their erection, and a large endowment for the support of the institution.

thence along said township line south 34 degrees 30 minutes east 325 perches to the beginning, containing about 1000 acres. The first election was fixed for Wednesday, July 6, 1887 at the old farm house, property of Rev. John Dorrance at the stone bridge, the present site of Hughey's store. Peirce Butler was designated to give notice of the election and the following were appointed: Walter S. Pettebone, judge of election, Harper Pettebone and Peirce Butler, inspectors.

The borough was consolidated with Kingston July 19, 1921 by a vote of 2244 for consolidation and 1169 against it.

A postoffice was established at Dorranceton, April 28, 1891, with Barton M. Pace as postmaster. His successors were: Benjamin L. Miller appointed January 25, 1893; Thomas D. Carle, appointed January 7, 1895; Agnes M. Wallace appointed December 13, 1898. The office was discontinued August 31, 1904, upon the establishment of free delivery from the Kingston office.

A postoffice was established at Westmoor, under the name of "Trolley" on March 25, 1898, with Thomas A. Long as postmaster. The name was changed to Westmoor, April 19, 1898. The succeeding postmasters were: Stella J. Long appointed July 2, 1898; and Mary A. Long appointed April 16, 1901. The office was discontinued August 31, 1904, upon the establishment of free delivery from the Kingston office.

OFFICERS OF KINGSTON BOROUGH

First election December 15, 1857: Reuben Jones, Burgess; Reuben Jones, Justice of the Peace; P. V. Wambold, Frank Helme Inspectors of Election; Reuben Marcy, Judge of Election; A. J. Pringle, Assessor; J. R. Gates, Giles Slocum, Cornelius Robbins, Street Commissioners (Councilmen), E. A. Pringle, Constable; Isaac Tripp, James Harris, Giles Slocum, A. J. Pringle, Anson Church, Joshua Belding, School Directors; C. W. Boughton, Ira Carle (tie) Borough Clerk, Abram Goodwin, Abram Nesbitt, R. H. Little, Auditors.

The following have been elected officers of Kingston Borough and only the dates of the first election are given:

Justices of the Peace: Z. B. Hoyt 1858; Reuben Jones 1862; Alfred Darte; Ira Carle 1875; C. W. Boone 1877; J. D. Cooper 1885; Ira Carle 1886; W. M. Van Horn 1901; W. H. Chapin 1903; Charles B. Fowler 1911; James Morgan.

Assessors: Abram Nesbitt 1858; C. W. Boughton 1860; A. J. Roat 1863; A. J. Pringle 1864; James Dewitt 1869; William F. Church 1872; John W. Shaw 1873; George Reese 1874; E. R. Preston 1876; E. C. Starbird 1877; John Remmell 1880; Lance Tyrrell 1881; V. Heisz 1882; Z. T. Baird 1883; Calvin Dymond 1885; C. J. Turpin 1887; A. H. Coon 1891; Ira Dilley 1892; J. A. Lynn, M. L. Luke, E. F. Sheerin 1895; Myron Strickland, Alexander Drochack, W. J. Myles, A. P. Moran 1901; John Dzoleck 1904; George W. Brown, Evan R. Morgan, John Keller 1907; William H. Evans, Steve Stevens 1910; John Evans, Thomas Kane, John Kuzynskas 1911.

Constables: John R. Gates 1858; E. A. Pringle 1859; James Dewitt 1860; E. C. Starbird 1862; James Dewitt 1865; I. E. Thomas 1870; James Dewitt 1873; Horace Welsh 1878; Theodore Shaw 1876; George Dilley 1877; George Dymond 1879; E. C. Starbird 1883; J. A. Roat 1886; Henry Croop, J. E. Gray, R. T. Covert, Augustus Baker 1893; A. H. Brown 1895; J. McHenry, Evan Bryant 1896; A. G. Lutz 1898; W. D. Carle, G. W. Carr 1899; H. H. Holmes, James Dewitt, Felix Rutkowsky 1902; Frank Kishbaugh, C. M. Masters, Michael Moslosky 1905; D. S. Clarke, Joseph Matthews, P. J. Hagen, Felix Dougherty 1911; W. E. Bryant, Frank Brokowtis 1915; Julius Fleschutt, William Gregory, Thomas Kane, John Ivancki 1919; John Mooney, Lee Weir, Harry Hirner, 1923; Andrew Rushufsky, Charles Doughton, Arthur Wagner, William Rescorla, Jr. 1927.

School Directors: Reuben Marcy, A. J. Pringle, John R. Gates, James Harris, Anson A. Church, Joshua Belding 1858; Ira Carle, A. Goodwin, Jr. 1859; Richard Hutchins, William C. Norris, 1860; R. H. Tubbs 1861; Levi Thomas 1862; Abram Nesbitt, George Reese, Daniel Young, L. M. Smith 1863; C. W. Boughton 1864; J. R. Gates 1866; E. C. Starbird 1867;. I. M. Schooley 1870; William G. Colley, J. D. Lewis, A. H. Coon 1872; J. C. Houser, Dr. Frederic Corss 1873; Charles Hutchinson 1875; Thomas P. Macfarlane, Philip Edgar, Amos Shortz 1876; S. P. Harder, Leonard Morris 1877; J. N. Pettebone 1878; W. H. Shaver 1880; W. M. VanHorn 1882; T. H. B. Lewis, H. F. Johnson 1883; E. E. Hoyt, E. B. Jacobs 1885; A. H. Reynolds 1886; P. A. Quick, W. G. Colley 1887; W. R. Safford 1888; A. B. Tyrrell 1889; E. R. Aston, Alexander Nicol 1890; John E. Nugent 1891; Thomas R. Phillips 1892; R. E. Miles 1893; Z. T. Keller, Christian Bach 1894; B. McManus, James Marshall 1895; Evan Miles, Elliott R. Morgan 1896; W. H. Chapin, J. C. VanLoon, Charles Graham, Jr., 1897; F. S. Halsey, Frederic Corss, James Dougherty 1898; L. L. Rogers, Michael Price 1899; E. H. Coolbaugh, William J. Trembath, Charles H. Reynolds 1900; G. Murray Roat 1901; C. W. Laycock, William Brewster 1902; Charles E. Strouse, Charles F. Swallow, Hugh Sweeney 1904; George W. Brown 1905; Charles G. Morgan 1906; Albert E. Miller, John W. Wright 1907; O. E. Hawkins 1908; E. G. Erwin 1909; D. M. Rosser, Frank Remmell, John M. Miles 1911; C. Murray Turpin, Thomas M. Martin 1915; Samuel H. Hicks 1917; Fred B. Davis 1919; D. T. Scott, E. J. Evans 1921; H. A. Gordon, W. G. Shortz, W. M. Phillips, Anne Dorrance, J. D. Husted, Lewis Roberts by consolidation with Dorranceton; William S. Jones, William M. Phillips, Fred B. Davis 1925; Anne Dorrance, James P. Harris, Thomas M. Martin, James D. Husted 1927

Poormasters: Frank Helme, Giles Slocum, 1860; Bester Payne, Thomas Slocum 1861; Samuel Hoyt, Richard Hutchins 1862; John R. Gates, A. J. Pringle 1863.

Auditors: George E. Hoyt 1862; E. W. Reynolds, D. R. Prendergast 1863; Z. B. Hoyt 1864; Reuben Marcy 1865; A. J. Pringle 1866; Abram Goodwin 1867; E. Hill 1868; Frank Helme 1869; Levi Thomas 1870; T. H. B. Lewis 1872; A. H. Reynolds 1873; N. H. Laycock 1876; L. C. Darte 1877; George Pringle 1879; J. W. Gaskins 1880; A. C. Laycock 1882; C. J. Girton 1884; C. R. Acker 1885; Thomas R. Atherton 1886; J. Bennet Smith 1888; J. E. Nugent 1889; N. G. Pringle 1890; R. B. Vaughn 1891; Stanley Grover 1892; Abram G. Nesbitt. W. P. Billings 1895; E. M. Rosser, W. H.

Webber 1897; E. L. Crisman 1899; Frank I. Remmell 1900; Frank O. Starbird 1901; P. R. Johnson; Wesley Davis; Leo Kelly; Fred Davis 1927; Alfred N. Dennis 1929.

High Constables: George Dymond 1879; Thomas Carle 1882; E. C. Starbird 1883; W. D. Carle 1884; J. A. Roat 1886; Henry Badders 1888; John Lynch 1889; Henry Croop 1891; I. H. Thomas 1896; John Landmesser 1899; Joseph Long 1902; James B. Scott 1905; Charles M. Masters 1911; W. E. Bryant 1915; John S. Evanoaski 1923; Gilbert Parry 1927.

Burgesses: Reuben Jones, Henry VanScoy, Ira Carle, Philip Edgar 1885; Samuel Pringle 1886; Henry F. Johnson 1887; Ira Carle 1888; Butler Dilley 1892; E. C. Starbird 1897; R. P. Brodhead 1900, resigned succeeded by Willard H. Goodwin; W. H. Chapin 1906; W. M. VanHorn 1909; Rush Trescott 1913; C. Murray Turpin 1921; G. Murray Roat 1925.

Councilmen: J. R. Gates, Giles Slocum, Cornelius Robbins, William Loveland, Abram Nesbitt, George L. Pringle, C. W. Boughton, Patrick McPike, Calvin Dymond, D. G. Sleigh, E. B. Baldwin, Henry F. Johnson, S. C. Phillips, Z. T. Baird, A. B. Tyrrell, Ira M. Dilley, John N. Pettebone, Henry VanScoy, John D. Hoyt, Charles Graham; W. M. VanHorn 1884; Alfred Darte 1885; Robert Hutchinson 1886; John B. Reynolds, A. J. Roat 1887; H. C. Miller 1888; George H. Flanagan, James Waddell, T. L. Newell 1889; J. C. VanLoon 1890; Robert Cooper, George Nesbitt 1891; E. E. Hoyt 1892; Butler Reynolds, James A. Lynn, C. B. Wilcox, D. L. Jones, James Marshall 1893; A. C. Laycock, A. P. Moran 1895; P. B. Reynolds, C. F. Swallow, William Pugh, Miles Shepherd 1896; T. P. Culver 1897; R. B. Vaughn, M. F. Walsh 1898; J. F. Frace, Isaac Rosenheim 1899; J. W. Marcy 1900; John Parry, W. J. Lewis, R. J. Walsh 1901; D. S. Clarke, Pierce Wolcott, M. J. Burns 1902; Frank Helme 1903; James S. Monks, Fred W. Frantz 1904; E. L. Crisman, T. L. Newell, Peter Passa 1905; John A. Heidrich 1906; H. H. Hall, William E. Bryant, Bernard McManus 1907; Ralph C. Hull, George W. Carr 1909; James P. Donahoe 1910; Frank Crane, Bernard McHugh, Thomas R. Phillips 1913; Charles Z. Donn, Joseph Rozansky 1913; Peirce B. Reynolds 1915; Michael McHale, Adam J. Kodish, Julian Sosnowsky 1915; John H. Rice, M. F. Price 1917; Emerson Shotwell, Stanley Sulkosky, Anthony Gober 1919; William G. Williams, Charles L. Nesbitt, John M. Cobb, George Evans, Roger J. Howell, 1923; William A. Aten, John Boyer, Theodore A. Puhlick, William Jenkins, David Bolton, John D. Grimes 1925; Anthony J. Brusack, Willis H. Miller, Harry R. Davis, John H. Lamoreaux, Eugene Cameron, Elliott B. Davis 1927; George Schellenberger, Max R. Huttner, Edwin Davis, John G. Phillips 1929.

Tax Collectors: John Remmell 1886; E. C. Starbird 1887; C. J. Turpin 1888; Thomas Somers 1889; E. C. Starbird 1890; William Andrews 1894; C. W. Boughton 1900; Evan R. Morgan 1913; Martin Pooley 1917; William G. Williams 1921; John A. Heidrich 1925; George Davis 1929.

The following were elected officers of Dorranceton Borough, and only the dates of the first election are given

Burgesses: George H. Butler 1887; H. M. Gordon 1891; George Evans, J. W. Smith 1896; Rhone Trescott; A. J. Ellsworth 1903; L. A. Dymond 1906; D. W. Davis 1909; Harry Brown 1917.

Councilmen: Charles Dorrance, Jacob S. Pettebone, Thomas H. Ely, Noah Pettebone, Joseph T. Welter, B. F. Dorrance 1887; S. B. Vaughn, John Wallace 1889; G. L. Marcy 1890; R. E. Byle, James H. Ely 1891; Ebenezer Lloyd, Abram I. Hershberger 1893; J. M. Case, H. C. Barney 1894; S. Pettebone, W. H. Mensch, John D. Grimes 1896; J. Froelich, A. L. Smith, C. B. Johnson 1898; W. A. Lathrop 1899; J. E. Scott, J. F. Dorrance, Edward Reese, E. P. Fitzgerald 1901; Charles Allabach 1902; H. M. Gordon, D. P. Good, Joseph Roberts 1903; R. R. Jones, Peirce Butler, Thomas J. Golightly, Rhone Trescott, George Van Buskirk 1904; W. A. Aten, George

Corrigan, J. F. Dorrance, H. W. Pierce 1906; C. B. Hoyt, R. T. Mercur, Fred Rodda 1907; E. T. Jones, F. L. Olds 1908; C. E. Garrahan 1909; Fred Fisher, A. E. Wheeler, W. A. Adamy 1911; R. D. Raeder, Stanley Henry, Carl F. Schmitt, L. R. Barney 1913; Thomas G. Kelly, John W. Miles, Thomas S. Davis 1915; Charles A. Carle, John Jewell 1917; Charles G. Seeber, Stanley E. Oliver 1919.

High Constables: A. Van Campen 1887; B. F. Miller 1888; G. W. Tunney 1891; Isaiah Bomboy 1892; John M. Harrison 1893; D. J. Davis; George Evans 1911; Harry Poust 1915; Joseph George 1919.

Justices of the Peace: S. B. Vaughn 1887; George H. Butler, W. S. Pettebone 1888; J. H. Osborne 1889; H. M. Gordon 1891; George Evans 1896; A. J. Ellsworth 1901; L. A. Dymond 1903; C. B. Johnson 1908; Fred Rodda.

Constables: A. Van Campen 1887; B. F. Miller 1888; John M. Thomas 1892; J. M. Harrison 1893; D. J. Davis, Charles Pembleton, J. W. Bonham, George M. Crocker, Barney O'Boyle, Archie Lindsay, J. D. Baer, L. Price, Charles Wilson, Fred Lancaster, Charles Armstrong, John Smith, L. S. Reese, John Harned, James B. Scott, Robert Roberts, Harry Brown, B. C. Winters, E. D. Huff, Arthur VanBuskirk, Harry Hazlett, Ed. Evans, David L. Jones.

Assessors: Noah Pettebone 1887; Peirce Butler 1888; A. Hershberger 1891; J. F. Welter 1892; G. Berlew 1894; T. J. Morgan, N. Karp, H. N. Pettebone, Robert Roberts 1898; George Ransom, V. L. Capwell, S. J. Travis 1901; David Wyant, Joseph Griffith 1904; W. H. Kyte, George Evans, C. L. Capwell, R. H. Scureman 1910. .

School Directors: N. Pettebone, T. H. Ely, B. F. Dorrance, W. Pettebone, Joseph F. Welter, William Mensch 1887; J. E. Briggs 1888; D. R. Miller J. B. Koup 1889; George Stroh 1890; Amos Shortz 1891; E. M. Elsworth, Gilbert Berlew 1891; E. I. Bonham, James C. Wallace 1892; John P. Evans, George Newitt, J. V. Drake 1895; S. D. Phillips, W. Morgan, Willard Shortz, A. J. Ringstrom 1896; Ira Hardy, E. I. Bonham, B. F. Mathers, J. F. Mengle, E. D. Schooley, H. N. Pettebone 1899; George R. Newitt, Ira Hardy, Aaron Jones 1900; Harry Brown, D. Seward, Henry Johnson, I. O. Drake, John M. Evans, H. A. Bosworth 1901; W. F. Davison 1903; N. J. Hawley, Lewis Reese 1904; D. W. Davis, A. W. Betterly 1905; Harry Brown, H. L. Poust, Rowland Jones 1905; M. H. Johnson 1907; Aaron Lamoreaux, Fred Bredbender, C. A. Frick 1909; Moses Strunk, B. G. Coon, Ben Lewis 1910; Anne Dorrance, Willard G. Shortz, H. A. Gordon 1911; Gwillym Davis 1913; James D. Husted 1919.

Auditors: H. Pettebone, T. J. Ely, U. Beacham 1887; G. H. Butler, J. L. Welter, B. L. Miller 1888; W. S. Morgan 1889; E. M. Ellsworth, Samuel Koup 1889; Noah Pettebone, Moses McGee, D. Adair 1895; W. J. Evans 1896; J. S. Pettebone 1899; Joseph R. Long 1900; J. T. Cotschall, E. R. Mould, H. A. Gordon 1902; W. G. Shortz 1903; Burton Ranson 1905; D. A. Gilbert 1906; George Harris 1907; Thomas Carle 1908; Fred Davis, Charles Humpleby 1915; Leo Kelly 1919.

Tax Collectors: Peirce Butler 1887; Alexander Weir 1888; H. N. Pettebone 1890; J. L. Welter 1893; H. M. Gordon 1894; D. H. Adair 1897; F. W. Ellis 1906.

CHAPTER XVII.

1807—1929

WYOMING AND WEST WYOMING

First Called New Troy—West Wyoming Originally Called Carpenter's Mills and Later Shoemaker's Mills—Industries on Abraham's Creek—The Shoemaker Woolen Factory—Old Jenkins-Laycock Tavern—The Perkins-Brace Tavern—Division of Wyoming Borough.

New Troy was the name, designated in the patent of the four hundred thirty five acres of land, granted, July 14, 1807, by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Jacob Bedford. In the early grants, tracts of land were named in the patents, and these names were given by a clerk in the land office, who was evidently a classical scholar judging from the large number of Greek and Latin names used. This plantation, patented to Mr. Bedford, included much of the land, in the most northerly part of Kingston Township, and is a goodly portion of the present boroughs of Wyoming and West Wyoming. The name stuck, and the intersection of the mill road (now Eighth Street) with the Great Road (Wyoming Avenue) was thereafter called "Troy Corners", and "New Troy."

This tract of land was surveyed to Gilbert Carpenter, under the Act of 1799, and he deeded it, June 8, 1807, to Jacob Bedford, who was a son-in-law of Benjamin Carpenter, his brother. Soon after the issuance of the patent, Mr. Bedford reconveyed much of this land to Gilbert and Benjamin Carpenter.

On May 1, 1778, Asahel Buck conveyed to Benjamin Carpenter, lots Nos. 35 and 36, Third Division, and eighteen days after he purchased it, he sold to Solomon Finch all of lot No. 35, "except one acre sold to Elnathan Corey for a mill seat." Benjamin Carpenter then lived on lot No. 36 near the site of the Ira Shoemaker home; and he fought in the Battle of Wyoming, and with his brother-in-law, Anning Owen escaped as previously related. Gilbert Carpenter evidently came later.

In Chapter IV, the story is told, of the erection of the first mill on Abraham's Creek, by Elnathan Corey, which was probably in operation prior to May 8, 1777. It was built on lot No. 35, and practically on the site of the present Shoemaker grist mill. This mill site was at first described as one acre, but in the later deeds as two acres. The date, when the Carpenter's acquired these mills, is uncertain. We know, that Elnathan Corey lived until about 1790, and in that year, the mills were in possession of the Carpenters, as is evidenced by a deed made May 8th of that year, wherein Gabriel and John Corey, sons of Elnathan Corey, conveyed, "the entire right and privilege of conveying the water of the creek, called Abraham's Creek, across the lands, which Elnathan Corey purchased of Asahel Buck, situate in said Kingston, in the Third Division, where water is now conveyed, in order to rise the step of the hill, until it intersects the line of the lands, belonging to the heirs of Solomon Finch, late of the county deceased."

The present Shoemaker mill race, begins on Abraham's Creek, at a point on the southerly side of the Carverton road, in lot No. 34, crosses the road and continues along the foot and side of the hill, and seemingly climbs the hill, or as stated in the foregoing "in order to rise the step of the hill"; and flows into lot No. 35 (then belonging to the heirs of Solomon Finch), to the pond which is of later construction; and the water then flows by a flume, under the old woolen mill to a fore-bay in front of the Shoemaker residence, and from thence to the tail race. From an inspection of the old records, it appears that no considerable change has been made in this water power, and that the stream still flows through the same mill race that it did one hundred and fifty years ago.

These mills, then, consisted of a grist and saw mill, and the early development of this section was due to the enterprise of the Carpenters. In 1789, Benjamin Carpenter purchased three quarters of lot No. 37, from Andrew Wortman, administrator of the estate of Ozias Yale, who had it as part of the settling right of his father Benjamin Yale. Samuel Finch, administrator of Daniel Finch, January 4, 1791, sold to Mr. Carpenter, all of lot No. 29 of the Third Division and lot No. 18 of the Fourth Division. On January 10, 1791, Gilbert Carpenter sold to Benjamn Carpenter, part of lot No. 35, Third

Division: "Beginning at a stake standing one chain and twenty-five links north 33 degrees west from a buttonwood tree, corner of lands of Gilbert Carpenter, and John Corey (this buttonwood tree stood on the south side of the creek between lots Nos. 34 and 35, just north of the town hall, West Wyoming) * * * together with the whole, sole and entire right of conveying the waters of Abraham's Creek, where it shall be judged most convenient until it intersects the head of the canal, that leads the water on the pine plain, thence where it now runs into the two acres of land aforesaid, with the privilege of occupying the same for the use of mills and other buildings of like nature." In 1796, Gilbert Carpenter, conveyed to Benjamin Carpenter, so much of that part of lot No. 35 from the back road, running easterly as would contain ninety acres.

By these conveyances, Benjamin Carpenter* held under Connecticut title, lot No. 36, three quarters of lot No. 37, lot No. 18 of the Fourth division, ninety acres of lot No: 33, and the two acres of lot No. 35, upon which were erected the mills. Prior to 1800, Mr. Carpenter removed from lot No. 36, and probably built the house on the mill lot, a part of which was the residence of the late J. I. Shoemaker.

Gilbert Carpenter purchased December 25, 1790, from Gabriel Corey, part of lot No. 34, Third Division containing fifty three acres. "Being one half of that part of lot No. 34, adjoining No. 35, and running from the creek (just below the back road), back to the Fourth Division." In 1792, Andrew Bennet sold to Gilbert Carpenter all of lot No. 33, containing 200 acres. Ninety acres of this Gilbert Carpenter sold to Benjamin Carpenter in 1796. January 15, 1791, John Rosekrans sold to Gilbert Carpenter part of lot No. 35, (Rosekrans had purchased, in 1790 from Isaac Finch, heir of Solomon Finch, lot No. 35, containing 150 acres) beginning at the buttonwood tree on the south bank of Abraham's Creek and running west far enough to contain 18 acres; and also by said deed "bargain and sell to said Gilbert Carpenter his heirs and assigns the whole and sole right to convey and occupy the water of the creek, where it is now conveyed for the use of mills and other buildings of like nature." There was also conveyed another piece of land being a part of lot No. 35: "beginning at the northwest end of said lot and running down said lot of an equal distance on each line until it contains 12 acres."

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*BENJAMIN CARPENTER, was born January 29, 1750, and fought in the Battle of Wyoming. In 1786, he lived, where the Ira Shoemaker house now stands in West Wyoming Borough, and in 1787 he was commissioned one of the judges of the court of this county. His wife was Mary Ferrier, born March 16, 1752, died March 11, 1836. He was one of the most prominent men of Wyoming Valley, until he left here in 1807, for Delaware County, Ohio, where he died September 23, 1823. He was a carpenter by trade and he and his brother Gilbert built the Colonel Denison house. His children were: Catherine, who married Jacob Bedford; James, born November 10, 1773, married March 1, 1798, Elizabeth, daughter of Captain Dethick Hewitt, died in 1823; Esther, born December 6, 1775; Moses, born October 12, 1777; Elizabeth born November 7, 1778, died in 1870, married Lazarus Denison; Benjamin Jr., born January 3, 1782, married Lucy Rosencrantz Starke, died in 1849; Robert born April, 1784, died May 18, 1839; Christianna, born August 28, 1786; Thomas born December 23, 1788; Mary, born May 14, 1791, married Rufus Carver; Sarah, born August 8, 1793, married John S. Brown; Charles Wesley, born August 15, 1795, died August 10, 1871.

The first piece was that part of lot No. 35 running from a line several rods below the back road and parallel therewith back about 900 feet so as to include the mill lot of two acres and the present field, west of the old woolen mill, where the pond is located. The latter parcel, adjoined the Fourth Division and was in the vicinity of the saw mill, mentioned hereafter.

The remaining part of the land in and about Eighth Street was disposed of as follows. On May 3, 1791, John Rosekrans purchased of John Corey, part of lot No. 34, "beginning at the Great Road and running along it 25 rods and thence back to Abraham's Creek; and thence on the southeast bank of said creek as it runs to the line between Rosekrans and John Corey; and thence along said line to the beginning, containing ten acres." This was that part of lot No. 34 between the Avenue and the creek, and on the southerly side of Eighth Street, and on it was probably located the Elnathan Corey homestead. On October 25, 1792, Gilbert Carpenter sold to John Rosekrans part of lot No. 35; beginning on the Great Road at a corner of land belonging to Benjamin Carpenter (lot No. 36) .and containing eight and one quarter acres. This vested in Rosekrans all of lot No. 35 facing the Avenue.

On March 11, 1800, John Rosekrans sold to Joseph Swetland that part of lot No. 34 containing ten acres which he had purchased of John Corey; and also lot No. 35 of the Third Division containing 150 acres, which he had purchased of Isaac Finch, and the eight and a quarter acres which he purchased of Gilbert Carpenter; and excepting out of the conveyance the mill seat of two acres; and the eighteen acres, and twelve acres sold to Gilbert Carpenter; and one and one fourth acres sold to Josephus Barber. Joseph Swetland sold this land, on April 7, 1802 to Samuel Breese*, who established his residence on the southerly side of Eighth Street on the bank of Abraham's Creek; and he lived there for many years in an old red house, which was familiarly known as the Captain Samuel Breese homestead.

The history of the locality then known as Carpenter's Mills, has now been traced, to the time of the issuance by the Commonwealth of the patents to the Connecticut claimants, under the Act of 1799. The subsequent growth into the community known as New Troy and Shoemaker's Mills was due to the development of primitive manufacturing along the banks of Abraham's Creek. As heretofore related Gilbert Carpenter† became the owner of twelve acres of the upper part of lot No. 35, and one half of lot No. 34, adjoining and abutting the Fourth

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*CAPTAIN SAMUEL BREESE, was born in Hunterdon County, N. J. April 17, 1758 and died at New Troy, July 21, 1837. He married February 23, 1780, Hannah Person, born February 15. 1760, died April 9, 1817. Captain Breese served in the New Jersey Line during the Revolution and was in the battles of Long Island, Spanktown, and Basking Ridge. He removed to Wyoming Valley, in June, 1789, and his home was the old red house on the south side of Eighth Street on the bank of Abraham's Creek. His second wife was Mrs. Catherine Shafer, born March 23, 1773, died May 10, 1845. His children all by his first wife were: 1. Wyllis, born March 18, 1781, died October 17, 1853; 2. Daniel born May 11, 1783, died May 19, 1864; 3. Mary, born May 23, 1785, died December 21, 1871, married Samuel LaFrance; 4. Lot, born January 8, 1788, died May 1, 1868, married Fal'a Jenkins, born March 7, 1794, died November 23, 1877, and their children were: a. Steuben, born August 10, 1812, died August 5, 1813, (b) Freeman, born April 3, 1814, died January 17, 1851, married Margaret Ann Sharps, and had the following children: Martha Elizabeth, born 1841, died October 23, 1908; Mary M. born April 27, 1846, died May 10, 1847; Sarah A., born 1848, died 1896; (c) Sarah Maria, born December 29, 1815, died April 22, 1857, married William Sharps; (c) Elizabeth, born December 31, 1817, died February 23, 1882, married Peter Sharps; (e) Lydia born April 19, 1820, died May 13, 1892, married Albert Polen; (f) Catherine Bethia, born April 26, 1822, died December 5, 1885, married John Sharps, Jr.; (g) Esther, born May 25, 1824, died September 2, 1840 married Jacob S. Hice; (h) John Jenkins, born October 1, 1862, died August 12, 1899; (i) James L., born December 16, 1828; (j) Ruth Ann born December 27, 1830, died April 10, 1902, married James H. Melick; (k) Nicholas Murray, born July 30, 1833, died August 1, 1882, married Mary E. Courtright, and children were Stella, Mrs. J. C. Bell, Frank M. and Joseph C. 5. Ezra, born in Somerset County, N. J. June 13, 1790, and died at Wyoming June 28, 1869, married Sarah S. Whisler, born March 17, 1794, died November 16, 1877. Their children were: (a) Samuel W., born April 14, 1814; (b) Mary, born September 13, 1816, died February 24, 1913, married John K. Jenkins; (c) Caroline, born September 14, 1818, married John Breese; (d) Martha A., born June 7, 1821, died July 7, 1893; (e) Elma, born September 11, 1823, died October 9, 1893, married Samuel T. Sturdevant; (f) Lyman V., born August 3, 1828, married Elizabeth Woodhouse, born 1834 and their children were: Anna R., married Charles Tracey; Vinton L., married Hattie A. Brown and has children Merle, and Rena; (g) Lucy Ann born December 4, 1831, died April 16, 1904, married Dr. J. G. Sperling, and had a daughter Lulu who married Charles H. Townend; (h) Wesley L., born May 8, 1833, married Mary Ann Hice: 6. Elizabeth, born March 24, 1793, died October 22, 1871, married James Jenkins; 7. John, born August 28, 1795, died March 12, 1879, married Jerusha Johnsten, born 1798, died July 16, 1860, and their children were: (a) Sarah, born December 6, 1819, died May 28, 1900, married William Schooley; (b) Eliza Jane, born August 1, 1816, died August 18, 1902, married Jesse B. Schooley; (c) Catherine B., born July 27, 1822, died July 18, 1905, married Hon. Steuben Jenkins; (d) George M. H., married Margaret Schooley. John Breese married second Rosanna Moore and their children were John and Rosanna. 8. Henry, born December 21, 1797, died October 21, 1875, married Sarah Johnsten, and removed to Toulon, Ill. in 1836; 9. Samuel, born October 6, 1802, died December 13, 1875, married Sarah Woodward who died July 21, 1894, and their children were: (a) Anna Louise, born August 27, 1829, died September 4, 1829; (b) Francis born May 20, 1831, married Charles F. Smith; (c) Alexander H., born February 10, 1833, died October 25, 1882; (d) Mary J., born September 23, 1835, died June 4, 1877, married George B. Snodgrass; (e) Martin Van Buren, born October 10, 1838; (f) Frederick Van D., born September 5, 1843, died February 26, 1895; (g) Alice, born September 5, 1847, died January 18, 1890, married Charles Berry; (h) Elizabeth, born February 10, 1853.

†GILBERT CARPENTER was a brother of Benjamin Carpenter, and was a son of Benjamin and Mary Carpenter. He came to Wyoming Valley, and with his brother purchased the mills started by Elnathan Corey. He erected a saw mill on Abraham's Creek a little below (the present Saxe's store.) It is said he was a millwright, and carpenter. He was an active Methodist, and during the time he resided near his saw mill, he organized the class, which later be-

Division. His brother Benjamin Carpenter was the owner of lot No. 18, Fourth Division. Near where these lots joined, there was a mill site; and upon it Gilbert Carpenter erected a saw mill, which was in operation before April, 1796; for at the April Sessions of the court, that year, a road was laid "from Gilbert Carpenter's saw mill on Abraham's Creek to James Sutton's mill, (the present Coray's Glen), and thence to the river road." This saw mill site was included in the patent issued to Jacob Bedford, and he sold it June 27, 1810 to James Landon and from thenceforth, it was known for years as Landon's mill.

Uriah Swetland purchased from Mr. Landon in 1825, twenty six acres containing the mill, and being part of lots Nos. 34 and 35. The mill stood near the bend of the creek, some little distance below the present forks of the road in front of Saxe's store. On August 14, 1822, Mr. Swetland purchased from Jacob I. and Isaac Shoemaker three acres of lot No. 18, and upon this he erected a distillery, with which he was assessed in 1822, and which stood near, what was later known as the Dailey house, having once been occupied by Martin Dailey, who operated the saw mill. Upon the lands, he thus acquired, Mr. Swetland built a new mill dam and a grist mill, which stood approximately on the site of what was later known as the white mill. This was in operation about 1825. The pond of this mill was above the present bridge, and the water was carried some distance, in a race, to the mill. At the time it was owned by Mr. Swetland, the road leading to Sutton's mill, and the road leading to Trucksville, intersected the road leading down the gorge, between the grist mill and the saw mill and several hundred feet below the present forks.

In 1836, Uriah Swetland sold these mills to William Swetland. In 1812, Samuel Raub had purchased from Jacob Bedford forty acres of lot No. 34 running from the back road to the Fourth Division and eight acres of lot No. 18 which adjoined.

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came the Carverton church. Mr. Carpenter became a local preacher and about 1809, he removed to Delaware County, Ohio, where he died. Some of his children were: Gilbert Jr. born 1772, died in 1828 at Galena Ohio, was a land owner at one time in Kingston Township; Benjamin, born in 1774, owned part of lot No. 33, Third division, which he sold and he removed to Ohio; Mary; Rhoda; Nathaniel Cooley, all born prior to 1782; Moses, born 1784; Samuel, born 1785.

*URIAH SWETLAND, a younger brother of William Swetland, was born September 29, 1800, and died April 24, 1888, at Eatonville, Pa. He married Elizabeth Shales born March 27, 1804 died April 8, 1877. Their only child Matilda, was married November 25, 1842 to Captain James Bird Harding of Wyoming County. Uriah Swetland lived in the latter part of his life in Wyoming County.

This latter piece William Swetland purchased of Mr. Raub and thus obtained possession of the available water power in this locality. Mr. Swetland rebuilt the lower mill, (white mill), and also erected a clover mill, which stood between the creek and Saxe's store. This clover mill was turned into a chop mill. The dam for this mill stood along the Trucksville road, perhaps three hundred feet above the present corners and the water was conveyed by a race across the road and then into a wooden flume, which carried it upon a large overshot wheel. The ruin of this mill dam is still plainly visible.

August 20, 1846, Mr. Swetland sold to Comer Phillips* 276 acres of land including the above tracts, and as recited in the deed: "on which is erected two grist mills, one saw mill, and three dwelling houses."

Milton H. Phillips sold his interest to James B. Drake, and August 8, 1851, Mr. Drake and Isaac H. Phillips made a partition between them of the land, Drake taking the upper or red mill, and Phillips the white mill. Mr. Phillips sold the white mill to Fletcher B. Dodson in 1856. This mill burned down and was rebuilt by Mr. Dodson and was operated until it passed into the ownership of the Spring Brook Water Co., when it was torn down.

The red mill was conducted by Mr. Drake and also by John Drake, who started the store now owned by Amos Saxe. The Carverton post office was removed from the house of Isaac Austin to this store June 3, 1875, John W. Drake, becoming postmaster. Isaac Edwards later ran the store and mill, and he was succeeded by Amos B. Saxe, who ran the mill until after it was purchased by the Water Company, when it was torn down. The old Phillips house, which was probably built either by Mr. Landon or the Swetlands is still standing and is owned by Mrs. Robert Jacoby, a descendant of Isaac H. Phillips.

Below these mills at the place where Jacob Stevens ran a blacksmith shop for many years, Cruikshank and Laubach once operated a distillery; and below this, on the east side of the creek was an axe factory in operation in 1842, and owned by Joseph Whitmore and Nathan Gaines. Later this became a lathe and shingle mill.

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*COMER PHILLIPS, was born December 24, 1783, married February 5; 1801 to Hannah Mott, born January 6, 1779, died March 27, 1853. He sold 518 acres in Providence Township to Mr. Swetland for $17,000, and paid $13,000 for the Kingston property. He died in January, 1847, in Lackawanna Township, and willed his Kingston property to his sons Milton G., and Isaac H., his daughters Caroline Dailey and Hannah C. Jones and the heirs of his daughter Polly Felts. By partition and sales, a portion of this property passed into the possession of Isaac H. Phillips who resided in the old house still standing. He was born August 29, 1811,

Down the road and between it and the creek, at a point a little below the oil station and road house known as "Chicks Place," Stephen Robbins* built a saw mill, which was in operation in 1825. This was continued by his son Elijah Robbins, who also opened the large stone quarry on the east bank of the creek.

About 1840, Jedidiah Schooley and Charles Fuller built a powder mill, which was operated for several years, being blown up, May 27, 1847. It was nearly on the site, of what later became Frear's foundry, which stood at what is now 859 West Eighth Street. Robert R. Frear purchased this land in 1869, and erected a small foundry, where he manufactured plows, cultivators, and made castings of all kinds. The motive power at first was water and traces of the race and dam are still to be seen. Later steam was used, and the foundry was only torn down, a few years ago.

Just below the stone bridge, probably stood the second fulling mill erected in the valley. (See chapter on Mill Hollow). These fulling mills were for the purpose of dressing cloth, the wool of which, before 1800 was carded, spun and woven by hand, in the home. The principal machinery in these mills was the fulling hammer made of wood and operated by a water wheel; and by which the cloth was beaten, and scoured. It was then steamed and pressed. In the issue of the Wilkes-Barre Gazette and Luzerne Advertiser of October 2, 1798, this appeared, "Jacob Bedford informs the public, he is erecting a fulling mill at Carpenter's Mills in Kingston, which will be ready in a few days to run. He will color scarlets, greens, blues and browns; steam clothes, etc., and has engaged a workman of long experience in Europe and America." In the same paper in November 1799, it was announced, "Godfrey Clare informs the public,

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died April 30, 1873, married November 4, 1832 to Rachel Ward born September 9, 1814, died April 14, 1887. Their children were: Phebe Ann born June 20, 1834, died October 29, 1911, married Madison Shafer, and their son Morris married to Martha Townsend is living at Wyoming; Arabella born May 20, 1836, died December 29, 1890, married first to William Turner second to Mr. Goodrich; William Henry born January 10, 1841, married Rhoda Williams; Helen A., born May 18, 1843, died April 10, 1913, married Eli Goodrich; George W., born January 20, 1846, married Elizabeth Peterson; Clarence Eugene, born January 23, 1850, married Lydia Cosner; Eveline J., born April 5, 1853, married Edson Goodrich; Gertrude, born March 29, 1862, married Abner J. Spencer.

*STEPHEN ROBBINS, married Mary Catherine daughter of John and Molly Honeywell, and their children were: Elijah, Adam, Stephen D., Aisa, William, Rachel Robbins Greenleaf, Almira Robbins Schriver, Matilda, Mary Robbins Calkins, and Mahala.

that he carries on the fulling business at Carpenter's Mills." In the Luzerne County Federalist, October 1, 1802, was the following: "Azor Sturdevant informs the public that he has erected. a new fulling mill that will do business at the lowest pitch of water."

It has been stated, that this Sturdevant mill, was the one built by Mr. Bedford, but Mr. Sturdevant's announcement, would indicate that he had built a new mill. The advertisements of both Bedford and Clare is at Carpenter's Mills, but this mention of Carpenter's Mills may have been merely to designate the locality. There is little doubt, however, that the mill run by Azor Sturdevant* stood about fifty feet below the stone bridge. This mill was built of stone. On May 20, 1809, Jacob Bedford conveyed to Azor Sturdevant, the following: "where Sturdevant now lives, beginning at Isaac Shoemaker's upper flume, running down his race to a spring run, thence up the run to the road and thence up the road to the main creek again, thence down the middle of the creek to the first mentioned floom." This deed was evidently made, in fullfilment of a contract, which had been in existence for some time, for Sturdevant then had a house on the lot, and only three days later he sold the property to Samuel Breese. On July 17, 1809, Mr. Breese advertised that he had taken over the fulling mill of Azor Sturdevant, and he conducted it until October 15, 1811, when he entered into, partnership with Rosewell Sturdevant. Breese and Phillips were conducting the mill, October 4, 1818. This partnership between Samuel Breese, A. C. Phillips, and John Breese was dissolved October 24, 1823; and on September 10th of the same year William Swetland and Uriah Swetland advertised the fulling and dyeing business, formerly conducted by Charles Phillips in Kingston. Charles Phillips† was a fuller by trade and probably managed the mill but the records would indicate that it was owned by a partnership composed of the Breeses and Alvah C. Phillips.

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*Azor Sturdevant, was a son of James Sturdevant of Braintrim Township. He was a fuller by trade and prior to 1810, removed to Berkshire, Delaware County, Ohio, where he died.

†Charles Phillips, was born at Litchfield, Connecticut, and removed to Wayne County, Pa., and from there to Wyoming Valley. He was an expert finisher of woolen cloth, and was employed in the Breese mill. He married April 1, 1824, Jane Bird, born January 2, 1802, died November 20, 1888, a sister of James Bird, the martyr. Their only child, Lena born August 2, 1824, died November 30, 1848, married William Durland, born February 28, 1816. Their children were: Mary Jane, born June 10, 1843, married John W. Drake; Lewis, born March 31, 1845, married March 29, 1869 to Hannah C. Jones; Henry M., born March 5, 1847, married first Elizabeth Lemon; second to Edna Ophelia, daughter of James B. Drake.

On April 24, 1833, it was announced in the Wyoming Republican, that William W. Kirkendall had bought out the Breeses, and formed a partnership under the name of Ambler and Kirkendall and engaged in the wool carding business at New Troy. It seems that wool carding machinery had been put in some time previously by John Ambler and W. A. Merritt. However, on April 23, 1829, John Wright had purchased of Samuel Breese, a one half undivided interest in this property, and this he sold in 1840 to Chester Shales, who conveyed his interest in 1846 to James Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins sold it under contract to A. J. Bell, who had a blacksmith and wagon shop there, and this contract he assigned in 1873 to Levi Winters who obtained a deed from Steuben Jenkins, administrator of James Jenkins.

A little north of this mill, William Goodwin had a blacksmith shop a hundred years ago.

Immediately below the fulling mill, on the Sturdevant lot, was a tannery. The title to this lot became vested in John Breese, who had a grist mill on it, and there was also a distillery, adjoining owned by Abraham Goodwin, Jr., John Breese, and Henry Breese. John Breese sold the lot April 1, 1826 to Josiah B. Marshall, who the same year conveyed a half interest to Daniel Gore and they built a tannery. In 1829, they sold it to Ansel Gay, from whom Philo Bowers* purchased it in 1832. Uriah Swetland obtained a half interest in 1836, but it was operated by Mr. Bowers until 1859, when the sheriff sold it as his property to Benjamin Saylor, and it was recited in the deed as "containing 3 acres with a two story dwelling, frame barn and frame tannery with a steam engine attached thereon." The Philo Bowers residence is still standing, and is No. 708 West Eighth street. Benjamin Saylor sold the property to

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*PHILO BOWERS, was born in Connecticut, September 18, 1803, and died July 3, 1875 He removed with his parents to the vicinity of Perry, N. Y., and came to Pennsylvania in 1829, to work as a foreman on the North Branch Canal. He married Catherine Saylor in 1832, and in the same year purchased of Ansel Gay the tannery property, which he conducted for many years. In 1850, the serious flood in Abraham's Creek nearly destroyed his tannery, but he rebuilt it and put in steam power. He evidently incurred debts, which were his ruin and he lost his property. In 1863, he removed to Jennings, Wyoming County, where he lived. on a rented farm. He was an enterprising and public spirited man, and prominent in the affairs of the New Troy Methodist church, and of Kingston Township. He died at Tunkhannock, July 3, 1875. His children by his first wife were: Benjamin Saylor, born March 19, 1833, died April 1, 1834; Beriah Sabin, born November 30, 1835, died January 25, 1881, was a soldier in the Civil War, and married Eliza Mehan, born in 1840, and died August 27, 1882; Margaret Ann, born February 14, 1839; Jacob Clark, born January 4, 1842, died January 10, 1860; Chales Clayton, born November 12, 1847, died March 8, 1848. By his second wife Christianna Kutz Carmer, he had the following children: Elizabeth, born June 19, 1855; and George Scranton, born September 6, 1858.

Sterling Saylor in 1864, and he sold it to L. and A. A. Marsh the same year. Leonard and Augustus Marsh conveyed it in 1867 to Robert R. Brown and Samuel Roberts of New York, and they sold it in 1869 to James B. Drake.

At the corner of Eighth street and the Back road Josephus Barber had a shoemaker shop on a lot containing an acre and a half. This he sold to Jacob Bedford* in 1797, and Mr. Bedford established his hatter shop there evidently in the building formerly occupied by Mr. Barber. This stood at the northeast corner and Mr. Bedford sold it in 1817 to Jacob I. Shoemaker. It was then described as follows: "being the same on which said Bedford's hatter shop is erected and bounded southwestwardly by the road leading from the main road through said township to Shoemaker's mills, northwestwardly by the road passing said mills, northeastwardly by land of Samuel Breese, and southeastwardly by land of John Bird.'

This hatter shop became the saddlery shop of Jacob I. Shoemaker, who continued there until about 1823. It was occupied as a shoe shop by John Frazer, and as a cabinet shop by John Gardner. In 1831, it was turned into a store by G. Prentiss and C. R. Condit which was later conducted by Charles W. Parmalee and Chester Tuttle; by Chester Tuttle and Jonathan Mooers who were succeeded in September 1833 by Isaac Countryman Shoemaker, who ran a store, there for many years. After the death of Jacob I. Shoemaker the property passed to his daughter Helen, who married D. R. Prendergast, and they deeded it to William Church, whose estate sold it to David Maginnis. Daniel VanScoy purchased it from him.

In 1823, Jacob I. Shoemaker built the original Shoemaker Tavern, which stood in front of Eighth street on the westerly side of the back road. It was enlarged in 1833 by him and in later years was well known as the Pollock House. It was heated throughout with fire places and contained a large ball room. Mr. Shoemaker was a good fiddler and the place became very popular for dancing parties. He kept it until he died in 1851; and his daughter Sally, wife of Holden Tripp inherited the property. The tavern was licensed to Mr. Tripp in 1853. He ran it for many years and sold it to John Pollock; and the succeeding landlords have been, J. P. Smith, George Carey and Andrew Hardish. All, but a small part of the tavern building was destroyed by fire in 1912; and this has been remodelled into a store. The hotel barn stood on the vacant lot next to the creek and in front of the hotel.

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*JACOB BEDFORD, came to Kingston Township from Ulster County, N. Y. in 1792. He was born there in 1762, and died in Abington, then in this county August 23, 1849. He conducted the carding mill at Wyoming then known as Carpenter's Mills, named after Benjamin Carpenter whose daughter Kitty, whom he married December 17, 1797, was his first wife. His second wife was Deborah Sutton, born February 8, 1773, daughter of James Sutton, and they were married May 16, 1799. It is to the memory of Deborah Sutton, that we are indebted for the narration of many incidents in the early history of this section. Their son Andrew Bedford, born April 22, 1800, practiced medicine in Kingston for some time and later moved to Waverly, Pa. where he died. He was the father of the late George R. Bedford, Esq. Jacob Bedford was a hatter by trade. He removed from New Troy to Clifford, Susquehanna County, where he was living in 1823, and evidently from there to Abington, where he died.

John Bird, father of the martyr James Bird was the owner of two lots one on the southerly side of Eighth Street, and one on the northerly side described as follows: "Also one other tract of land across the road from the above mentioned tract" (this refers to the tract on the southerly side of the road), "part of lot No. 35, beginning on the northeast side of the road thirty feet from the house now occupied by Bird, at the corner of the lands now in the possession of Jacob Plumb; thence along said line to a line of Samuel Breese's land; thence along said line north 36 degrees 40 minutes west 18 perches; thence south 11 degrees 45 minutes to line of road thence along the road to the beginning." This lot adjoined the lot upon which Jacob Bedford had his hatter shop. It is said John Bird was a weaver. This land he sold February 5, 1825 to his son Abram and son-in-law Samuel Harding; and Abram Bird reconveyed to his father in 1835, one fourth acre a part of the land above described on the north west end "on which is a building formerly occupied as a store, now in occupancy of Russell Coudrey. The sheriff sold the two Bird lots, containing four acres as the property of Abram Bird to William Swetland, January 5, 1836, and on April 19th of the same year he sold it to Uriah Swetland who conveyed it to Russell Coudrey, who about this time, probably had a store on the one-fourth acre, and a short distance below the present bridge. The property was again sold by the sheriff as the estate of Coudrey to William Swetland and Payne Pettebone, and it was then described as "being improved with two frame houses, a frame barn and corn house." In 1846 Swetland and Pettebone sold it to Uriah Swetland who a few months later conveyed it to L. G. Ensign†, who lived there and conducted

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*John Bird: (See under chapter on James Bird).

†Lewis G. Ensign, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, May 1807, and died at Wyoming, January 29, 1887, married first Rebecca Fortner, born June 5, 1803, died January 13, 1855,

his watch and clock business for many years. The Ensign house stood near, what is known as the Patterson store.

The lot below this was sold November 6, 1811 by Jacob Bedford to Lot Breese, and the description is as follows: "Beginning at a corner of Samuel Breese's land on the line of the road leading from the main road to Shoemaker's mills; thence along the line of said road north 34 degrees 30 minutes west so far that a line across said lot parallel with the house that William Love* now lives in (Bird House), comes within 30 feet of said house; thence across said lot parallel with the house to Samuel Breese's land; thence along said Breese's line to a white oak stump; thence 8 rods and 5 links across said lot to the beginning." Upon this lot Mr. Breese erected a fulling mill, and under date of November 1, 1812, he advertised in the Gleaner that he had built a new fulling mill. This mill stood at about the present No. 415 West Eighth Street.

May 14, 1814, Mr. Breese sold it to David Goodwin. Peter Setzer purchased it of Mr. Goodwin in 1816. In May 1820, Jacob Plumb, Jr. and Franklin Jenkins leased the mill, and Mr. Plumb was running it in 1825.

Mr. Setzer sold this property in 1830 to John and Daniel C. Ambler, who only owned it a few months; and sold it to Ezra Breese and Jonathan Moores. They converted it, into a foundry. Mr. Breese was a pattern maker and Moores a moulder. About 1832 Mr. Moores, who bought out Breese, built a furnace and made pig iron in addition to his casting work.

Ezra Breese was running a plough factory at New Troy in 1837, in a building which stood near his residence, a little distance down the road. The castings were probably made at Moores' foundry.

In 1839 Mr. Moores sold his establishment to William Swetland & Co. The land described is as above and there is added the following description of the works: "also all the tools and implements, pertaining to the furnace or foundry, all patterns, all blacksmith tools, all the implements and tools connected with the plaster grinding and plough making." Swetland & Co.

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married second Mary Ann Hice Breese, born 1811, died February 23, 1887. He was the first jeweler in Carbondale, but later removed to Wyoming, and lived on West Eighth street where he died.

*William Love, was a soldier in the War of 1812. He was a hatter by trade and probably worked for Jacob Bedford. In 1811, he owned the Bird property on Eighth street. His wife was Eunice La France, born in 1787, died June 6, 1857.

sold the plant in 1841 to James Bird Harding and George Shafer, who owned it only a few months and disposed of it to John R. and Russell Coudrey. John R. Coudrey was running a hardware store at New Troy in 1833-34, and Russell Coudrey had possession of the store house on the Bird property in 1835, and probably was doing business there, about the time of this purchase of the foundry. John R. Coudrey made an assignment May 5, 1842, to William Swetland, for the benefit of his creditors; and the iron foundry was sold by the sheriff in 1844 to William Swetland and was then described as "all improved with two frame dwelling houses, a foundry and blacksmith shop under one roof, machine shop, a plaster mill, and stable thereon."

It was operated between 1844 and 1848 by Canfield Harrison, R. E. Marvin, and Ruthven & Rexford. On April 17, 1848, William Henry announced in the Wilkes-Barre Advocate, that he was running the Kingston foundry. In 1854 William Barber and Courtland N. Gates advertised in the Record of the Times, that they "had taken the Kingston foundry formerly conducted by Jonathan Moores, and were repairing engines, and making engines, coal breakers, pumps and saw mills." Some time after this, the plant was dismantled and the buildings torn down.

Some eighty years ago, Ezra Breese, built a small tannery along the creek in the rear of the present Fowler residence. Traces of the mill race may still be seen, and the building stood for many years. Lyman Breese, his son owned this property, and in later years, used the old building as a storehouse. The old Lyman Breese house, just below the Fowler residence is still standing. The David Goodwin house, which stood a little below Moores' furnace has been removed to the rear of the lot and remodelled.

In 1858, Thomas Hutchins built a tannery on the west side of the Avenue, near the Exeter line, and back near the high bank above the Lackawanna Railroad tracks. He had a finishing shop near the Avenue and did quite a business.

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*THOMAS HUTCHINS, was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., August 27, 1823 and died at Wyoming, December 13, 1882. He was a tanner and currier. He was Recorder of Deeds, 1869 to 1871, and with his son John A. Hutchins, he owned the Wyoming Terra Cotta Works. Thomas Hutchins was married to Martha, born September 5, 1824, died November 8, 1853, daughter of Samuel Landon. Their son John A. Hutchins, born July 4, 1848 and died in 1897, owned the Wyoming Terra Cotta Works, and owned the coal mine now known as the Troy mines. He married January 19, 1872, Mary Jane Shoemaker, born January 29, 1854, died September 14, 1913. Thomas Hutchins married for his second wife Annie M. Harris, born June 4, 1836, died January 31, 1906, and their children were Thomas, Robert Henry Dr. Richard H., Conrad

In 1831, G. and H. D. Fuller operated a rope walk, a factory for the manufacture of rope, in the vicinity of Shoemaker's mills, the hemp for which, was prepared at the Shoemaker grist mill, machinery for that purpose having been installed.

The Old Shoemaker Woolen Mill at West Wyoming

The most important industries on Abraham's Creek were the Shoemaker grist mill and the Shoemaker woolen mill, both still standing. We have traced the history of this old mill and the adjoining saw mill, from its beginning in 1777, through Gilbert Carpenter into the possession of his brother Benjamin Carpenter, who on September 1, 1807, for the sum of $5,250, sold to Isaac Shoemaker of Northampton County, Pennsylvania: "The whole of lot No. 36, and three equal fourth parts of No. 37; eight elevenths of lot No. 18 in the 4th Division so as to exclude 3 acres of the southermost part of No. 18, and the residue of said eight elevenths to cover the northermost part;

Elmer, Sarah Anna married Clarence Turner, Emily married Robert Lackey, and Crawford Arthur. Sarah, a sister of Thomas Hutchins born November 6, 1830, died March 21, 1875 married Robert Wilson, born December 29, 1825, died at Wyoming October 22, 1894. He was for many years proprietor of a drug store on Wyoming Avenue. His children were: Thomas, Fannie, married A. B. Green, and Mary married Ira H. Tripp.

2 acres Bounded: Beginning in middle of road, called back road on line between lot Nos. 34 and 35; thence to extend northeast course of said road 16 perches; thence north 34 degrees 30 perches, thence upon line parallel with first mentioned bounds until it intersects the line between lots Nos. 34 and 35, and thence to the beginning, containing two acres, whereon is erected a dwelling house, a grist mill and saw mill, with the sole privilege of using water from Abraham's Creek over land which it now passes, and also about three acres part of lot No. 34, bounded east by the main road, north on the back road, westerly by lines of Gilbert Carpenter, and southerly by Jacob Bedford."

The grist mill and saw mill were operated first by Isaac Shoemaker, and then by his son Samuel Shoemaker until 1816, when Isaac Shoemaker*, again took charge. He transferred them in 1826 to his sons Jacob I. and Isaac Jr., who on August 20, 1829, conveyed to John Ambler Jr., the mill and two acres of land, and "reserving to J. I. and Isaac Shoemaker the use of water for purpose of carrying on business of fulling and dressing cloth and carding at the place where the building is now occupied for that purpose, without obstruction to the water." John Ambler Jr. of Wallingford, Saratoga County, N. Y., sold the property in 1830 to Joseph Moss of New Berlin, Chenango County, N. Y. Mr. Ambler had given a mortgage to the Shoemakers and in 1839, it was sold by the sheriff as his property to

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*ISAAC SHOEMAKER, came from the vicinity of Raubville Northampton County to Wyoming, then called Carpenter's Mills in 1808, and purchased the lands and mills of Benjamin and Gilbert Carpenter. He improved these mills, and the name of the place was soon after changed to Shoemaker's Mills. Isaac Shoemaker died in 1829. His children were: Jacob I., Samuel. Isaac, Kate, Rosanna, Annie, and Sallie. His son Jacob I. Shoemaker was born January 7, 1785, and died in 1851. He married November 14, 1809, Elizabeth Wolgemuth, born June 4, 1787. He conducted for many years Shoemaker's Hotel, later known as the Pollock House. His children were:

1. Isaac C., born August 27, 1810, died January 18, 1875, who married May 25, 1837, Catherine A. Shoemaker. She died in 1880. Their children were: (a) Helen; (b) Jacob I, born April 7, 1839, educated at Wyoming Seminary, enlisted in Company E. 49th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers and during his lifetime, he was one of the most prominent and respected residents of Wyoming Valley. He married December 23, 1863, Mary M. Sharps, daughter of John and Catherine Breese Sharps: (c) Samuel Raub born May 1, 1841, died May 2, 1901, married January 7, 1868, Jennie M. Carver, born March 7, 1850; (d) Mary A., married February 8, 1865, Henry Van Scoy, born February 4, 1838, died August 10, 1904; (e) Frances A. P., married October 8, 1873, H. W. Brownscomb of Wilkes-Barre. 2. Mary Catherine, born October 19, 1812; 3. Annie, born May 15, 1815, died July 16, 1816; 4. Rosanna, born September 25, 1817; 5. William S. born February 19, 1820, died July 17, 1884, married March 11, 1841, Maria, daughter of Isaac and Catherine Tripp, born July 23, 1822, died June 8, 1883. Their children were: Catherine, married Stephen J. Sharps; Emaret married Denton D. Durland; Martha, married David O. McCollum; Mary J. married John A. Hutchins; Ira R., born March 7, 1852, married October 25, 1882, Martha H. Hatfield; and Stella who married Fred Sengfelder. 6. Margaret, born May 30, 1822; 7. Sallie, born March 31, 1825, died May 11, 1878, married first Thomas Bardoll and had a son Sterling born February 16, 1847. She married second Holden Tripp, born October 15, 1824, and died at Wyoming, December 30, 1870. He conducted the Shoemaker Hotel and was interested at one time in the grist mill. The children of Holden and Sallie Tripp were: Oscar H., born April 9, 1850, died September 21, 1851; Marcia Althea, born July 4, 1852, died September 17, 1897; William S., born November 12, 1854, died June 17, 1887; Lizzie D., born November 22, 1856; Charles C., born February 18, 1859; Ira Holden, born January 20, 1862.

Isaac Countryman Shoemaker. Mr. Shoemaker rebuilt and enlarged the mill and did an extensive business, having in partnership with him for many years his brother W. S. Shoemaker. Later it was operated by I. C. Shoemaker & Sons (Jacob I. and Samuel R.), and afterwards by Jacob I. Shoemaker and Daniel H. Frantz. In 1875, steam was substituted for water as the motive power. At one time it was run by the Shoemakers and Holden Tripp. James Fowler & Sons operated it for many years.

It may be that the first fulling mill of Jacob Bedford was not at the site up the creek, but at Carpenter's mills. However, it is certain, that the first carding mill was built in 1813, on the site of the woolen mill, and is perhaps, still standing a part of the present building, for in the Susquehanna Democrat, under date of May 15, 1813, Samuel Shoemaker, and William Swetling (Swetland) advertise "a carding machine and that they are also erecting a fulling mill near Shoemaker's mills. Mr. Swetland soon retired from the partnership, and under date of May 14, 1814, Samuel Shoemaker advertised, that he had two carding machines in operation in the upper part of Kingston, near Shoemaker's mills. Samuel Shoemaker seems to have conducted the mill until 1825, when it was taken over by Alvah C. Phillips*. In the Ambler deed made in 1829, there is reserved to J. I. and Isaac Shoemaker, Jr., the privilege of using water to carry on the carding business, indicating that they were operating it, then.

In 1837, Isaac Countryman Shoemaker purchased the carding and fulling mill, and he re-equipped it, by making the present large mill pond, and by adding a shearing machine, a carding machine, a single carding machine and condenser, a spinning jack, and two weaving looms. Early in 1838, the factory was put in operation, and its products were: satinet, cassimere, flannels, twilled blankets, fulled cloth, and yarn for carpets and stockings. More machinery was added in 1844 and 1847; and in 1857, knitting machines were installed and cotton and woolen hosiery and knit coats were made. Prior to the Civil War, this was the largest woolen factory in Northeastern Pennsylvania. It is interesting to note some of the prices paid as follows: spinners 10 cents a run; weavers 10 cents per yard; 12½ cents for heavier cloth; carpenters $1. to $1.25 per day; masons $1.25 per day; millwrights $1.75 per day; flannel 75 cents per yard; brown flannel 52 cents per yard; red flannel 80 cents per yard; jersey $2 per yard; satinet $1 to $1.25 per yard; yarn 87¼ cents per pound; bottle green cloth $1.62 per yard, brown fulled cloth $1.12 per yard; brown mixed full cloth $1.00 per yard.

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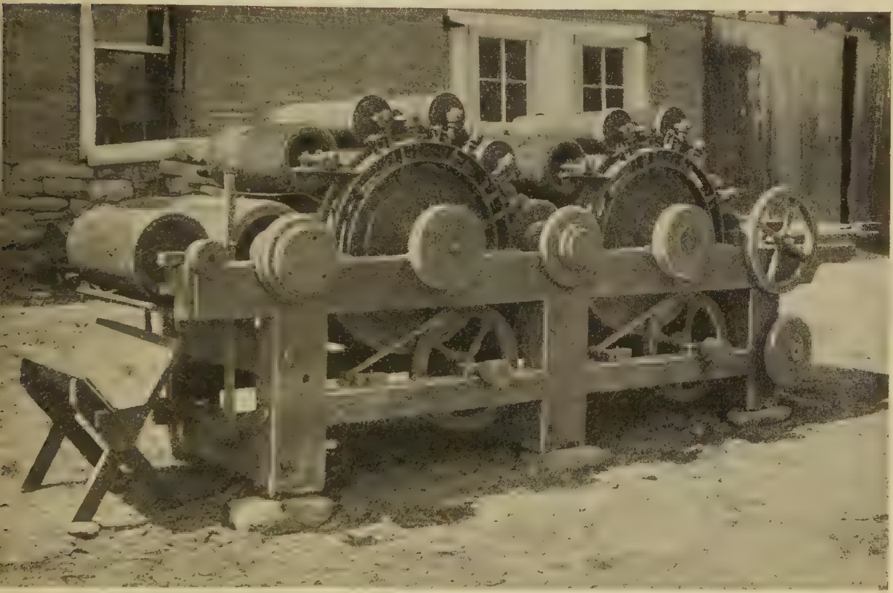
*Alvah Clesson Phillips, was born at Greenfield, Mass., May 6, 1795, and died October 8, 1840 at Wyoming. He came here about 1814, and was employed as a clothier at the Shoemaker mills. He married Ann, born September 16, 1794, died November 10, 1865, daughter of Solomon Chapin; and their children were: Mary S., born April 13, 1813, married in 1837 to Hon. Gordon S. Pike of Northmoreland, Pa.; Isaac Shoemaker, born September 13, 1820, John, born March 25, 1822, died December 6, 1831; Robert Chapin, born February 3, 1825, served in 171st Regiment Pa. Volunteers; Diana, born April 18, 1827, died February 19, 1906, married Abel Marcy, who was the first superintendent of schools of Luzerne County; Caroline Hosmer, born October 10, 1829, married Samuel G. Smith; Harriet W., born November 19, 1833, died June 1874, married Emanuel Lewis, son of William and Margaret Swetland Underwood, born November 17, 1833, died September 18, 1915. Mr. Underwood was a teacher in the public schools for many years. Alvah C. Phillips was one of the most prominent men of Kingston Township in his time. He was justice of the peace for many years, and for a long period was town clerk and secretary of the Proprietors Committee. His brother Moses Bascom Phillips, born July 11, 1814, died July 23, 1865, was a fuller, and for years was clerk for Isaac C. Shoemaker.



ONE OF THE FIRST CARDING MACHINES — (IN THE OLD SHOEMAKER WOOLEN MILL)

In 1860, Jacob I. Shoemaker became associated with his father and Samuel R. Shoemaker entered the firm in 1862, under the name of I. C. Shoemaker & Sons. The business was discontinued about 1880. During the time that Isaac C. Shoemaker ran the woolen mills, he erected a row, of little cottages on West Eighth Street, one of which is still standing, from the profits on the sale of satinet cloth; and the neighbors dubbed it "Satinet Row." The brick house built in 1866, was the residence of Isaac C. Shoemaker at the time of his death.

The corners formed by the intersection of the Avenue and Eighth Street, was not as important, in early times as the locality, known as Carpenter's and Shoemaker's Mills; and its development was due to the travel by the corners, back to the mills and over the mountain. Some time after 1807, it became known as New Troy Corners, and later as New Troy. In 1794, David Perkins kept a tavern near the corners, and perhaps on the site of the First National Bank. He was licensed as a tavern keeper, as late as 1805. George Taylor, a son-in-law of Isaac Shoemaker, built a tavern on the westerly side of Wyoming Avenue, at the corner of what is now Sixth Street, and was granted a license for it in 1813. He conducted it until 1820. William C. Johnson is said to have conducted it in 1820-21-22-23, but at the time of his death in 1826 he was keeping the tavern at Kingston Corners. The building is still standing and is now a tenement house. It was long the residence of John Sharps.

In 1817, Lot Breese was licensed as a tavern keeper, he having previously erected a public house, at the corner of what is now Eighth Street and the Avenue. This, has been used as a hotel site, continuously until recent years, when it was discontinued. It has been known as the Jenkins Tavern, Wyoming Hotel, and Laycock House. Mr. Breese sold it to Harris Jenkins* April 22, 1818, and it was conducted by him until 1828 when he sold it to James Jenkins. In 1830, Samuel Breese Jr., was the landlord, and in 1832 and 1833, Henry Breese. James Jenkins* conducted it in 1834, and Jacob Sager was the landlord from 1835 to 1841. James Jenkins had the license in 1842, and in 1843 and 1845 A. M. Jeffords; and it was probably kept in 1846

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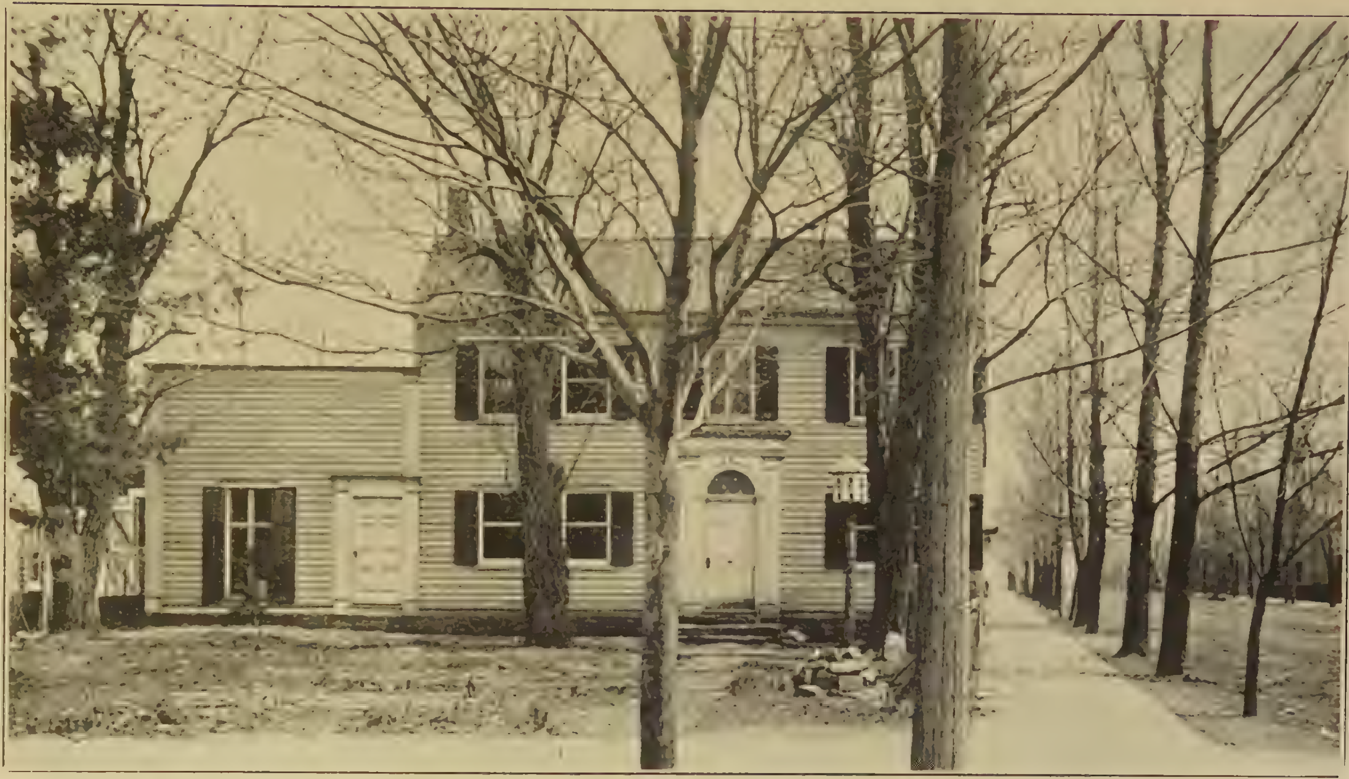
*COLONEL HARRIS JENKINS, son of Colonel John and Bethiah Harris Jenkins was born in Exeter, July 22, 1784, and died August11, 1850. He was Register and Recorder of Luzerne County, colonel of militia—and justice of the peace. He married Mary Booth born February 14, 1790, and their children were: 1. Harriet Lucinda, born November 14, 1808, married John R. Cowdry, born 1805, who conducted a hardware and tinsmith business on Sixth Street and later the foundry on Eighth Street; 2. John K., born April 14, 1810, died November 11, 1880, a merchant at New Troy and station agent of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad, married November 24, 1834, Mary Breese born September 13, 1816, died February 24, 1893, and they lived in the E. W. Larrish house; 3. Jane E., born February 11, 1812, married Jason G. Lewis; 4. Jabez Hyde, born November 6, 1815, died January 11, 1850, married Mary Larned, born December 22, 1816, died in 1897, and their children were: John K., born in 1835;



THE PERKINS-BRACE HOTEL—AND HOME OF DR. ALFRED BRACE—CORNER OF EIGHTH STREET AND WYOMING AVENUE, WYOMING, NOW SITE OF FIRST NATIONAL BANK and 1847 by Owen Ehret. Theodore Shirley was the proprietor in 1848, and in 1849, T. Whitmore of Philadelphia announced that he had taken the "Wyoming Hotel" at New Troy, lately kept by James Jenkins. In 1852 and 1853, A. M. Jeffords was again the landlord. July 4, 1863, James Jenkins sold it to Christianna Laycock, when it was known as the Wyoming Hotel, and her heirs later sold it to her son Colonel H. A. Laycock[†], who ran it for many years.

The Perkins-Brace Hotel, sometimes called "New Troy Tavern", was first licensed to John Perkins in 1827, and was conducted by him until his death in 1838 or 1839. In 1839, Alfred Brace became the landlord, and on March 20, 1840, the estate of John Perkins sold to him the corner, where is now located the First National Bank. Dr. Brace conducted this tavern for many years, and also ran a general store in the same building, both carried on in connection with his medical practice. The old tavern house was sold to the First National Bank, and the main portion of it was purchased from the bank by Claude G. Harsch, who removed it to his adjoining property and attached it to his store.

Where the Schooley building now stands was a graveyard, a small plot set apart for that purpose by an early owner of lot No. 34. In the deed of John Corey to John Rosekrans, made May 3, 1791 of that part of lot No. 34 between the Great Road and the creek, no mention is made of this burying ground. Neither, is it mentioned in the deed of Rosekrans to Joseph Swetland made in 1800; but in the deed of Swetland to Samuel

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Eva born May 26, 1839, died April 28, 1913, married Joseph J. Schooley; Charles W., born September 26, 1840, died May 10, 1904; Helen Frances, born November 21, 1845, married Colonel Albert Perry Barber; 6. Stephen B., born September 18, 1820, died December 9, 1855; 7. Annette, born February 12, 1823, married Dr. Charles R. Gorman; 8. Mary B., born April 12, 1825, died October 2, 1906, married George M. Richart.

[*] JAMES JENKINS, son of Colonel John Jenkins was born January 29, 1796, died August 8, 1873, married July 2, 1815 Elizabeth Breese. His store still standing, adjoins the First National Bank in Wyoming. His children were: 1. Ruth Ann, born March 10, 1816, died October 24, 1856, married Almon Church; 2. Mary, born November 1, 1817 died May 22, 1862, married November 17, 1842, Alpheus M. Jeffords, who at one time kept the Wyoming Hotel. He was born in 1814 and died August 24, 1887. 3. Steuben (see elsewhere); 4. James Harris, born March 26, 1822, married Mary E. Miller; 5. Samuel Breese, born September 29, 1824, died September 9, 1845; 6. Henry C., born March 17, 1827, died September 21, 1849; 7. Francis, born March 29, 1830, died April 23, 1833; 8. Maria E., born December 28, 1832, married Malcolm H. Angell; 9. George Lester, born July 11, 1835, died May 8, 1868.

[†] COLONEL HENRY A. LAYCOCK, was born in Kennedyville, Warren County, N. J., November 11, 1834, son of Jacob and Christianna Laycock. He was First Lieutenant 1861, Captain 1862, Major 1864, Lieutenant Colonel May 13, 1865, and Colonel June 12, 1865 of 56th Regiment Pa. Vols. Colonel Laycock was a gallant and distinguished soldier. He was married November 15, 1871 to Emma, daughter of Marx Long of Wilkes-Barre. His brothers and sisters were: Jonathan R.; Daniel P., married Henrietta, daughter of Dr. Alfred Brace; Sarah, E., married Elisha A. Dailey; Robert K., born January 24, 1839, died October 27, 1905, was for years in the carriage business at Wyoming, and married Mary E. Church; Martha, born September 14, 1841, married Robert P. Chapin.

Breese made in 1802, there is this recital, "Beginning on the line of the Great Road, near the burying ground, being the east corner of said lot." This recital would indicate, that this little burying ground, was back of the Avenue, a short distance, and along Eighth Street, and perhaps occupied some part of the present road. It is said that Christian G. Oehmig* kept a store on this corner about 1800. He kept this store as late as 1816 and he was probably the first merchant in New Troy. Mr. Oehmig had been clerk for Matthias Hollenback, and his name appears frequently in the early records.

On June 11, 1815, David Perkins, John Perkins, and Elisha Atherton, announced in the Gleaner, that "under the firm name of Perkins, Son & Atherton they had opened a new store in the upper end of Kingston and had received a general assortment of dry goods, queens ware, groceries, etc." In 1821, their store building was occupied by John Allment.

On July 4, 1815, Elias Hoyt and William Swetland announced that "they have opened a new store on the main road in the upper part of Kingston. This was the Swetland store still standing near the Pettebone place. On February 24, 1818, this partnership was dissolved, the business being continued by Mr. Swetland. Under date of February 6, 1822, it was announced in the Susquehanna Democrat, as follows: "New store by Ziba Smith & Co., composed of Ziba Smith and William Swetland at New Troy." August 22, 1823, David Baldwin†, advertised that he had recommenced, the store business, in the store formerly occupied by William Swetland in Kingston. In 1836 Stephen P. Hill‡, advertised that he was selling off at cost in

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*CHRISTIAN G. OEHMIG, was born August 4, 1764, died February 5, 1839, married Esther, daughter of Captain William Gallup, born October 28, 1768, died May 18, 1817. He was for years, chief clerk for Matthias Hollenback. His children were: Adam; John George, born January 12, 1793, died October 8, 1849; Judith M., born February 28, 1799, died October 10, 1868. Of these, the latter was the best known. She resided in the old homestead at New Troy, and for many years kept a private school, there, which was familiarly known in olden times as Judy Oehmig's school.

†DAVID BALDWIN, was born March 16, 1801, and was an early teacher in Kingston Township. In 1823, he became a merchant and purchased from William Swetland his stock, and conducted business in the old Swetland store for about two years, part of the time in partnership with Mr. Swetland. On July 17, 1827, Mr. Baldwin announced that he "had opened a new store on the opposite side of the road, between the stores of Thomas Borbidge, and G. M. Hollenback." This was at Kingston Corners in the building, which stood on the site of the Light Company office, and was at one time occupied by Samuel Thomas. During the time, he kept this store he was postmaster of Kingston. He later removed to New Troy, where he kept a store and died July 26, 1840, having previously sold his store and real estate to Swetland & Co. His first wife was Penelope, daughter of General Samuel Thomas; and his second wife was Mary Ann, daughter of Jacob I. Shoemaker, and they had a daughter Penelope E., at one time a teacher in Wyoming Seminary, who married Dr. J. M. Crawford of Cincinnati, Ohio.

‡COLONEL ERASTUS HILL, was born July 6, 1787, and died September 24, 1867. He was the son of Gamaliel Hill, who died September 1796, and his wife Christianna who died September 10, 1810. They had a daughter Polly who married Thomas Bird. The widow of Gamaliel

David Baldwin's store house at New Troy. Mr. Swetland was running his store in 1825; and in partnership with Payne Pettebone, continued it for many years.

Harris Jenkins was an early merchant, and he was at one time in partnership with J. R. Coudrey but it was dissolved August 8, 1827, and continued by Mr. Jenkins, probably in the building next to the bank. This business was being run by James Jenkins in 1828, and was continued by him for many years.

Elisha Atherton and James Perkins were in partnership in the store business in 1818. J. Hardy conducted a store at the Wyoming Hotel in 1819. On September 25, 1833, Whiston & Atherton advertised a store at New Troy. This partnership was composed of Edward D. Whiston* and Elisha Atherton, but in 1838, Mr. Atherton was in business alone. In 1841, the merchants at New Troy were Atherton & Schooley†, and Shoemaker & Jenkins. Thomas F. Atherton was running a store in 1846. In 1859, A. M. Jeffords was in the store business at Wyoming. An early blacksmith at New Troy was Henry Courtright.

Henry Woodhouse was the village squire, and at one time was secretary of the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad. He lived at the northeast corner of the Avenue and Sixth Street.

Hill married Henry Hutchins. Colonel Hill married Lucy Pettebone, born September 12, 1792, died January 12, 1842, and their son, Stephen Hill was a prominent merchant in the township many years ago. Colonel Hill resided on the Avenue between the residence of William Swetland and Payne Pettebone, he was a prominent man in the township and early engaged in the coal business and other enterprises.

*EDWARD D. WHISTON, was born October 11, 1794, died August 23, 1859, married Harriet, sister of William Swetland, born August 13, 1809, died August 11, 1894. They had a son Morgan D. Whiston, born in 1827, died December 14, 1885.

†JOSEPH PARK SCHOOLEY, was born in Greenwich, Sussex County, N. J., August 17, 1785, died January 28, 1875, married December 10, 1809, Margaret Barber, born November 25, 1793, died June 7, 1865. He lived most of his life in Exeter Township. His children were: I. Jesse B., born April 1, 1811, died December 15, 1884, married Eliza Jane Breese, born August 1, 1816, died August 18, 1902, and their children were: 1. Fannie, born July 20, 1839, died July 12, 1867, married James D. Green, born April 26, 1834, died March 21, 1910; 2. Margaret J., born April 4, 1842, died July 1, 1889, married Edwin G. La France; 3. Lizzie S., born July 20, 1844, died August 25,1870; 4. Joseph J., born May 17, 1846, died April 24, 1918, married Eva Jenkins, born May 26, 1849, died April 28, 1913; 5. Jennie, born July 9, 1849, died January 12, 1871; 6. Kate M., born December 4, 1851, died September 15, 1873; 7. Jesse Barber Jr., born March 20, 1854, married Minnie E. Steele; 8. James M., born March 7, 1857, died February 24, 1911, married Helen M. Hopper; II. Jedediah, born April 10, 1812, died July 24, 1847, married December 9, 1840, Cornelia Belding, born September 20, 1823, died December 14, 1863; and their children were: 1. Edward J., born July 2, 1841, died December 29, 1914, married Cassia A. Price, born 1845, died 1906; Henry N., born May 4, 1842, died February 23, 1910, married September 3, 1867, Mary Snyder. He carried on a large milling business in Luzerne Borough; 3. Margaret, born October 21, 1844, died January 22, 1845; 4. Mary Frances, born December 9, 1845, died January 2, 1915, married Isaac Carpenter; 5. Alice. III. Mary Ann, born January 14, 1814, died April 1, 1889, married Jacob Sharps, born November 8, 1807, died June 19, 1886; IV. William, born February 16, 1816 died June 28, 1887, married Sarah Sharps, born December 6, 1819, died May 28, 1900; V. Elizabeth, born September 3, 1818, died December 4, 1903, married John Sharps Carpenter, born August 11, 1812, died December 9, 1898; VI. Mehitable, born August 15, 1821, died July 6, 1860, married Dr. Charles R. German; VII. Joanna, born July 3, 1823, died November 27, 1899; VIII. Joseph Park, Jr., born May 13, 1825, died October 3, 1891, married Charlotte Laird; IX. Margaret, born February 16, 1828, died October 28, 1853, married George M. H. Breese.

The Miller* farm house was midway between Fifth and Sixth Streets on the east side of the Avenue, and almost opposite it, was the old Jacobs house. Below the Miller house on the same side of the street is the Henry Polen† house still standing. The Jane Gore house, part of it ancient, is now occupied by Vincent Breese.

The old brick house just below this and above the town hall was built and occupied by Lot Breese. The Hon. Steuben Jenkins lived in the white house just above the Laycock Hotel, and just north of it years ago, stood the Wyoming school house.

One of the first frame houses built in Wyoming was that occupied by Solomon Chapin‡, which stood on Eighth street, but years ago was removed to another street, remodelled and is still standing.

A postoffice was established, under the name of New Troy, April 27, 1826 with William Swetland as postmaster. The name was changed to Wyoming, March 5, 1839. The postmasters, with dates of appointment have been:

William Swetland April 27, 1826; Alpheus M. Jeffords June 22, 1844; Wm. Swetland December 14, 1844; John Brees June 2, 1846; John K. Jenkins May 11, 1849; James Jenkins December 23, 1851; Alpheus M. Jeffords May 7, 1853; John K. Jenkins June 25, 1861; James D. Green May 25, 1863; Philip H. Dailey August 21, 1873; Jesse B. Schooley March 24,

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*Christian Miller was born October 22, 1777 died October 6, 1841, married Sarah, born October 19, 1782, died October 17, 1878, daughter of Jonathan Hutchins. He came to Wyoming in 1807 and purchased the farm on the east side of the avenue, in the upper part of the present borough. He opened the old ferry at Wyoming first known as the Miller's Ferry, in 1816. His children were: 1. Andrew, born June 24, 1802, died February 11, 1882, married Mary M. Albright, and their children were; Mary E., married James Harris Jenkins; Carrie H., born 1846, died October 12, 1892; married Ferree Lightner; 2. Eunice, born September 3, 1804, died January 2, 1880, married John Perkins; 3. Sarah, married Valentine Cook; 4. Mary, married Calvin Gifford; 5. Elizabeth, married Benjamin Gifford; 6. Caroline, married Daniel J. Moffett; 7. Susanna born February 15, 1814, died 1815; 9. Amy, married Lewis Mulford; 10. Frances, died in 1845.

†William Polen, was born April 5, 1779 in Warren County, N. J., died June 27, 1859, married Christina Winters, born December 28, 1782, died January 13, 1856. He removed to Kingston Township in 1816. Among his children were: 1. Peter, born September 27, 1804, died March 3, 1869, married Catherine Decker; 2. Henry, born February 13, 1807, died December 28, 1878, married Elizabeth Bennett, born September 20, 1812, died June 25, 1898, and their children were George, died September 7, 1910, Thomas B., born 1843, died November 3, 1918, married Nellie C. Jacobs, Peter H., died February 8, 1901, Francis M., born October 14, 1835, died December 28, 1906, married William Tracey; Abigail died in 1919; 3. Winters, born January 4, 1815, died 1873, member of Pennsylvania Legislature; 4. Albert, born March 20, 1817, died February 12, 1900, married Lydia Breese, and their children were: Steuben, born May 1, 1841, died May 3, 1917; 2. Alpheus B., born October 31, 1842, died February 29, 1896, James L, born August 23, 1844, died July 4, 1912, Charles Gorman, born April 19, 1847, died July 4, 1912, David, born May 28, 1849, died March 2, 1886; Franklin J., born February 24, 1851, died September 23, 1895; Albert M., born March 19, 1853, died June 13, 1889; 5. David B., born November 4, 1821, died July 11, 1894. He operated a blacksmith shop in Wyoming.

‡Solomon Chapin, was born in 1768, and died in Kingston Township, May 25, 1814. His home stood on West Eighth street on the lot adjoining, that owned by Joseph L. Dymond. He married Catherine, daughter of Peter Shales, and their children were: Sally, born December 31, 1792, married David Goodwin, born November 16, 1788, died February 16, 1827; Ann, born September 16, 1794, died November 10, 1865, married Alvah C. Phillips; Elizabeth Betsey, born October 18, 1800, died August 4, 1882, married first Isaac Shoemaker Jr., and second Jacob I. Shoemaker; Robert P.; Mary married John Johnsten, and removed to Michi-

1874; Wm. H. Jenkins July 24, 1885; Baltzer T. Laycock August 26, 1889; Robert W. Hutchins April 5, 1893; Sallie P. A. Hutchins September 22, 1896; Charles Crouse June 9, 1897; Charles Crouse March 3, 1899; Margaret Reynolds, acting postmistress June 26, 1911; Elenore L. Crouse July 22, 1911. Wyoming office was discontinued, February 28, 1913 to become a branch of Pittston.

Wyoming remained a part of Kingston Township until 1885, when a petition was presented to the Court for the incorporation of a borough. Tbe proceedings are numbered to 134 April Sessions 1885, and the decree was made, incorporating the Borough of Wyoming with the following boundaries.

"Beginning at a point on the Susquehanna river between Exeter and Kingston, thence along the line separating the said townships, north 36 degrees, west 600 perches; thence by a south west line about 160 perches to the most easterly corner of land of Nice H. Minegar, near Abraham's Creek; thence South 46 degrees west 307 perches to line between certified lots Nos. 28 and 29, Third Division; thence along said line south 34 degrees east about 390 perches to the main road; thence along south east of said road to line between certified lots Nos. 5 and 6, Second Division; thence along said line south 49 degrees east to the center of the Susquehanna river; thence up the same its several courses and distances to the place of beginning."

The first election was fixed for July 15, 1885 at the Wyoming Grammar School Building, and Samuel A. Lake was appointed to give notice of the election, and James B. Drake was appointed judge, and Fisher Gay and John A. Hutchins inspectors of election.

On May 1, 1891, the court made a decree dividing the borough into two wards, and making the division line between them the

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gan; Charles, born August 17, 1805, died October 17, 1883, moved to Michigan. Robert P. Chapin, married Mary Ann Hice, born November 7, 1810, died February 23, 1887, and their children were Catherine B., born October 13, 1831, died September 28, 1852; Emily, born February 13, 1836, died March 12, 1859, married George Williams; Sarah, married Daniel Rankin; Henry Hice, married to Sarah Munger; Robert Patterson Chapin, married Martha, born September 14, 1841, daughter of Jacob and Christianna Laycock.

*Samuel La France, was born December 29, 1781, died January 10, 1850, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. He married Mary, daughter of Samuel Breese, and their children were: I. Phoebe, born September 23, 1802, died May 2, 1874, married a Mr. Coleman; II. Cordelia, born February 23, 1804, died June 11, 1873, married Barney Garney, born June 2, 1803, died September 11, 1890, and their children were; 1. Mary Ann, born September 22, 1830, married James Spoonenbury; 2. Ruth Ann, born July 2, 1832, married Jacob Fenstermacher; 3. James W., born January 30, 1835, died March 28, 1917; 4. Phoebe, born April 15, 1837, married William Fenstermacher; 5. Falla, born September 20, 1839, married George Moorehead; 6. Susan Eliza, born August 14, 1842, died January 3, 1892, married John Moorehead; 7. Beach T., born September 10, 1844, died September 23, 1914, married Mary Ann, born August 28, 1848, died December 11, 1909, daughter of Joshua Belding of Kingston, born May 13, 1804, died November 1, 1878, and Lucinda, his wife born January 26, 1819, died June 27, 1880; 8. Elisha, born October 28, 1845, died July 17, 1914, married Kate Miller; III, Elisha, born August 7, 1806, drowned May 7, 1809; IV. Lot, born October 13, 1808, died April 24, 1872, married Alminy Gregory, born October 15, 1815, died November 19, 1892, and their children were: 1. Mary Elizabeth, born August 30, 1832, died young; 2. John Martin, born March 15, 1835, died young; 3. Harriet Eugenia, born January 11, 1837, married Welles Grant; 4. Dewitt Clinton, born January 22, 1839, married Martha Space; 5. Frances Jane, born March 15, 1840, married Henry Platt; 6. Alvira, born May 22, 1843, married as second wife Henry Platt; 7. Edwin Gregory, born May 7, 1845, married first Margaret Schooley, born April 4, 1842, died July 1, 1889, married second to Katharine McCann; V. William, born April, 1813, married Nancy McCloud; VI. Hannah, born in 1816, died December 15, 1900, married Levi Canouse, and their children were: James, Daniel H., Annie Cordelia, married Charles Devans, and David M.

Lackawanna Railroad, the one on the west side being called the West ward and the one on the east the East ward.

Two political factions developed in the borough, along the lines of this ward division, and finally the bitterness culminated in a petition being presented to the court at the April Sessions of 1898, for a division of the borough. It was submitted to the Grand Jury May 2, 1898, and a division was reported favorably by that body. The decree was made June 23, 1898, setting off, that part of the borough known as the West ward into a separate borough by the name of West Wyoming; and Jacob I. Shoemaker was appointed to give notice of the election, which was fixed for Saturday, July 16, 1898 at the school house. J. A. Irvin was appointed judge of election and Edward N. Shoemaker and George Space inspectors.

Wyoming Borough was divided into three wards, by court action, February 6, 1899. The division being made as follows: First ward, all territory northeast of east side of Sixth Street from the river to the D. L. & W. tracks; Second ward all territory between northeast side of Sixth Street, and northeast side of Eighth Street from the river to the railroad; Third ward all territory between northeast side of Eighth Street and division line of the borough from river to railroad.

The following have been elected officers of Wyoming Borough, the dates of first election only being given:

Burgesses: William Hancock 1886; H. C. Townend 1887; Henry J. Best 1888; John J. Breese 1889; Charles Crouse 1890; J. V. Baker 1893; Joseph D. Lloyd 1894; Merritt Saxe 1897; W. W. Stocker 1900; J. V. Mullen 1903; Arthur Eicke 1906; Samuel S. Gingell 1909; Mathew F. Farrell 1917; Jesse Shafer 1921; John Masel 1925.

Councilmen: J. P. Smith, C. P. Knapp, J. A. Hutchins, John Sharps, J. I. Shoemaker 1886; Thomas English, R. K. Laycock 1887; William Hancock, John Smith 1888; William Stocker, Wilbur Rozelle 1889; A. J. Crouse, J. Sanders 1893; J. V. Mullen, William Cruikshank, G. W. Marsh 1894; J. V. Baker, John Lloyd 1895; D. D. Durland, 1896; James Eagen, E. G. LaFrance 1897; N. Rapson 1898; D. H. Canouse, A. C. Shoemaker, William Pyne, Charles Babcock, George H. Graley 1899; T. B. Smith, Thomas Lawson, W. W. Jenkins, Sterling B. Saxe 1901; Charles Hoffman 1902; Harry Jones, J. B. Schooley, Charles H. Townend, William T. Hutchins 1904; Freeman Austin 1905; Edwin Wendling, R. T. Hutchins, A. C. Stevens 1906; James Tonrey 1908; Fred S. Nagle 1909; Kervin J. Kelley, Elmer Z. Smith 1910; M. B. Somers, John Lawson, Cornelius Ward, John Masel, H. G. Shulde 1913; Patrick Curry, Joseph S. Eckert 1915; Fred B. Wheeler 1917; Harry Chapman, William Space, Harry O. Rhoades 1919; John Dworski, Thomas Hooper, 1921; William Simmens, H. H. McKeehan 1923; George C. Moore, John H. Heale, 1925; Joseph Ostroski 1927; Edward Dougherty, Karl Eckert, George F. Hileman 1929.

High Constables: J. M. Holmes 1886; Thomas Raynor 1887; Chauncey Wright 1890; J. K. Lafrance 1891; N. Hoffman 1896; H. Kulp 1898; S. A. Lake 1899; H. P. Simmons, Marcus M. Smith, Steven Jeffrey, William Eckert.

Constables: J. M. Holmes 1889; J. R. Lafrance 1891; I. Schooley 1892; S. A. Lake 1893; Thomas Hislop, H. P. Somers 1902; Frank Perrigo, Enoch Francis, 1903; M. M. Smith, John J. Goode 1905; Ira F. Crawford, Thomas Pocknell 1908; George C. Joell 1911; Ed. Brennan, E. F. Mott 1915; Harry LaBar 1919; John Krolick, Daniel O'Connor 1923; Lewis Borsos, Thomas Parkinson 1927.

Assessors: S. J. Sharps 1886; S. B. Saxe 1887; J. W. Wilson 1891; M. Saxe, S. Shirley 1892; A. C. Temple 1893; J. F. Smith, F. Gay 1895; C. G. Harsch 1898; Frank Gray, C. W. Stiff 1901; Stanley Eddy, Arthur Eicke, 1906; E. M. Ridgeway, K. R. Jones 1910; Joseph Corbett, Steve Knarr 1917.

Justices of the Peace: John T. Nixon 1887; J. B. Cole 1888; Steuben Jenkins 1890, W. J. Sanders 1893; M. Saxe 1896; J. I. Shoemaker 1898; Calvin Hess 1899; Richard Williams 1904; Samuel Gingell 1905; John J. Curry 1911; William D. Parry 1913; Samuel Booth 1919.

School Directors: James Fowler, J. E. Sanders, J. V. Baker, R. H. Weir 1886; W. S. Stites, E. S. Hays, J. F. Nuss 1887; Calvin Hess, Jacob Stevens, N. H. Minniger 1888; C. P. Knapp 1889; K. J. Kelly 1890; George Space 1891; J. Hutchins, J. Hunlock 1892; Charles Wilner 1893; William S. Jacobs, W. J. Fowler 1894; L. D. Durland 1895; J. A. Hopper 1896; O. B. Stevens, H. T. Gregory 1897; H. Jones 1898; Jerry Sanders 1899; G. F. Townend 1900; William T. Hutchins, James Genery 1901; Samuel Gingell, James J. Tonrey, N. Rapson 1905; John Keller, Robert Stiff, 1906; J. E. Myers, Thomas Reidy 1907; K. R. Jones, A. B. Smith, Arthur H. Chestworth, G. E. Reynolds 1913; Emma Dewitt 1915; John Ridgley 1917; Charles W. Thomas, George F. Good 1921; Edgar Clark 1923; William T. Scureman, T. B. Klinetob 1925; Edgar M. Sanders 1927.

Auditors: D. McCollum, J. B. Drake, W. S. Jacobs 1886; W. J. Gore 1887; J. B. Kitchen 1888; William J. Fowler 1889; J. B. Schooley 1890; C. G. Harsch 1892; J. V. Mullen, A. C. Shoemaker 1894; H. D. Laycock, T. H. Rinker 1896; H. H. Leas 1897; E. G. Allen, Martin Keller 1899; K. R. Jones 1900; John R. Williams, John R. Reedy 1902; Verne DeWolfe, Stanley Robinson 1905; A. C. Stevens 1909; Fred Hopper 1910; Jesse Lewis 1911; H. A. Eddy, C. E. Leas 1913; J. D. Saxe 1917; James E. Saxe 1921; Earl Lafrance 1925; Walter H. Evans 1929.

Tax Collectors: M. V. Rozelle 1886; J. B. Kitchen 1889; J. V. Baker 1891; R. Hutchins 1892; Henry Durland 1892; Samuel Space 1903; John Kellar 1909; J. J. Gilligan 1913; Thomas Hislop 1929.

The following have been elected officers of West Wyoming Borough, the dates of first election only being given:

Burgesses: B. J. Space 1898; H. H. Leas 1900; W. J. Saunders 1906; Robert Durland 1909; John McAndrew 1913; Robert Safford; David Lawson 1925; William J. Cotter 1929.

Councilmen: Fisher Gay, J. I. Shoemaker, John McDougall, William Tigue, D. D. Durland, James Hufford 1898; James Fowler, William Carey, H. H. Schooley, George B. Carey 1899; J. R. Baker, B. H. Baker 1900; W. F. Rozelle, George English 1901; James Lafrance, Thomas Hooper, Nelson Hoffman, O. W. Frear, Isaac Howell, Thomas Barrett, 1904; R. L. Durland, 1905; I. C. Edwards 1906; John Robinson 1907; F. S. Durland, William Durland, 1908; Daniel Brace 1909; Lewis Durland, John Alling 1911; Floyd Van Scoy, Arthur Faux 1913; Cleveland J. Safford, William J. Cotter 1915; A. L. Dymond 1915; Lawrence Barrett, Richard Dennis, Lewis Burkett, George H. Shoemaker 1919; Reuben Gardner 1921; W. J. Huntz, H. J. Mullison, Harry Booth, Bruce Faux, Ferdinando Giannini 1925; Jacob Kietchik, W. H. Shirley, Stephen J. Charney, Richard Dennis, Samuel DeMarko.

High Constables: Thomas Martin, Archie Phillips, Harry Hines, Richard Heffers.

Justices of the Peace: Wilbur F. Rozelle, H. M. Durland, J. I. Shoemaker, R. L. Durland, Robert L. Safford.

Constables: Thomas Carles 1898; Harry E. Kulp 1899; J. R. Lafrance 1902; George Troy 1905; Simon Smith 1908; George H. Solomon 1911; I. P. Saunders 1913; Adolph Hertz 1923; John Michaels 1927.

Assessors: Fisher Gay, Thomas H. Rinker, I. P. Saunders.

Tax Collectors: H. M. Durland; E. G. Alling; William J. Cotter 1917; Lewis Burket 1925; Walter J. Huntz 1929.

School Directors: Charles H. Wilner, W. J. Fowler, George Arkenson, Joseph L. Dymond, A. B. Dailey, A. W. Gay 1898; J. G. Hunlock 1899; H. T. Gregory, Ed. Rozelle, D. D. Durland, James Caffrey 1900; Charles McHenry, Lewis Durland, Robert Safford, S. M. Saunders 1901; William Rozelle, S. English 1903; John Cotter, W. L. Durland 1906; D. D. Durland, John B. Houghton, D. M. Hessler 1909; M. F. Mullison 1910; Miner Harris, Lewis Burkett, John B. Halpin, John Ridgley 1911; J. H. Bislin, Evan C. Jones 1913; Samuel Van Scoy 1915; William J. Fowler 1917; T. H. Aston, Philip Pascoe 1919; Martin B. Carey, Fred S. Durland 1925; Edward English Joseph Karaulski 1927; Philip Shutz 1929.

Auditors: H. H. Leas, M. M. Lord, E. G. Alling, John Wilson, R. H. Thompson, G. B. Lafrantz, R. E. Hutchins, Robert Durland, H. J. Ball, James McGinley, J. B. Robinson, Willard Alling. Thomas W. Shoemaker, Michael McGinley, Edward English, Arthur Dymond, M. B. Carey, Luzon Stevens, John Stephenson, Frank O. Weiss, Henry Begliomini.

CHAPTER XVIII

1791—1929

LUZERNE BOROUGH

First Called Hartsouff's Hollow—Stephen Hollister's Fulling Mill—First Carding Machine in the Valley—Joseph Swetland and James Hughes—The Woolen Mill of Holgate Royal & Co.—The Louisa Furnace—First Mine of Adam Shafer—The Paper Mill of Henry Buckingham & Company—The Village of Mill Hollow—Decay of Manufacturing—Growth of the Mining Village and Incorporation of Luzerne Borough, Edwardsville Borough, Courtdale Borough, Swoyersville Borough and Pringle Borough.

That section of the township, comprised within the limits of the present, Luzerne Borough, was in early times, always called "Hartsouff's Hollow", or "Mill Hollow"; and its history is that of the many mills, which were crowded along the banks of Toby's Creek. For generations, it was called "Mill Hollow", and it is regretable that a name of so much significance should have been abandoned. Perhaps the history of no other place in this section of the state, so completely typifies, the early development of American industry. The swift water falling from the mountain furnished ample power to drive a dozen mills; and the clever Yankee was not slow to avail himself of this natural privilege.

Long before the steam engine drove gigantic industries, and railroads furnished transportation for the products of mine and mill, within the narrow limits of Mill Hollow, were the crude beginnings of mining and manufacturing. Ranged side by side along the creek, within the space of less than a mile were the pioneer mine of Adam Shafer, the paper mill of Henry Buckingham, the grist mill of Zachariah Hartsouff, the distillery of Peter Babb, the blast furnace of George W. Little, the fulling mill of Stephen Hollister, the axe factory of John Bowman, the woolen mill of Holgate Royal & Company, and the tannery of William Hancock.

These men were among the pioneers of American industry; and while their efforts, compared with the immense successes of today, seem small, yet in their time, their mills were marvels of progressive development from the cruder preceding age. Like all pioneers, like all originators, like all real benefactors, they usually failed. By sacrafice and struggle, they erected their mills, and only to see their efforts, with hardly an exception, swept away by the sheriff, and the reward which they merited bestowed upon the banker and trader. Failure is written through all the early history of Mill Hollow. Men with ability and courage to conceive and develop the manufactories, so much needed in the community were usually without sufficient capital to carry on their enterprises, and were driven to borrow money from some neighboring merchant or banker, who soon after the wheels began to turn, closed in on the unfortunate debtors. Such is the usual and doleful history of the Mill Hollow manufacturer of early times.

As stated in a previous chapter, Elisha Swift built the first mills on Toby's Creek; and he was followed by that ingenious man, James Sutton who built mills here and there throughout Wyoming Valley, during the Colonial and Revolutionary periods. Sutton's mill was on the west side of the creek and near the present bridge over Main Street.

However, the real father of manufacturing on Toby's Creek was Zachariah Hartsouff. He was born in New Jersey, but came to Kingston township during the Revolution and built a distillery at Forty Fort. He was unfortunate in this enterprise and it was sold for debt. On February 22, 1791, Mr. Hartsouff purchased from James Sutton, "Six acres of land being a part of lot number 14 third division; together with all the houses, mills, and mill dams, with all brooks, and streams of water, and other water courses." In May following, he purchased of Lord Butler, the part of lot No. 13, beginning on the top of the hill south of Hartsouff's oil mill (the Sutton mill) and running up the creek to the Fourth division, and containing twenty nine acres. In 1795, he purchased of Adam Shafer, the upper part of lot No. 14, consisting of twenty acres. These purchases gave Mr. Hartsouff possession of not only what remained of the old Swift mills, but of all the land along the creek from a point below the lower bridge on Main Street to a point just below the upper bridge; and of all the available mill sites on lower Toby's Creek. For many years all this section was known as Hartsouff's Hollow; and the name survived long after the family was gone and forgotten.

What was known as Hartsouff's grist mill stood near, or on the site of the old white mill, now occupied by the Lattimore Lumber Company. The motive power was an overshot wheel, and a dam built between the hillsides, just above the mill, impounded the waters of the creek in a large pond, which extended back to the upper bridge. Mr. Hartsouff erected a distillery nearby, and for many years conducted a large business, his patronage coming from as far away as the settlements on the Hop Bottom, the first in Susquehanna county. It is probable that William Craig was in possession of this establishment for a short time about 1798, but at any rate Mr. Hartsouff operated it later on.

In 1794, the first machine for carding wool in this country had been placed in operation in Massachusetts, and in 1804 or early in 1805, Mr. Hartsouff, who was an enterprising man, induced James Beers, who came from the Eastern states to erect a carding machine at his grist mill. This was placed in operation, May 25, 1805 and was the first mill, in this section, for breaking and carding wool.

The first carding machines* were constructed by ingenious men, usually cabinet makers, who had become familiar with them in Massachusetts and Connecticut, and who went out into the newer settlements, and contracted with mill owners for the erection of carding machines. It was a great boon to any community, for by means of it a large quantity of wool could be carded in a short time; whereas by the old and tedious method by hand, much labor and time must be expended. The first carding machines were crude affairs, built almost entirely of wood. The numerous rollers of which they largely consisted were turned out in the lathe found in every cabinet shop; and the little iron used in their construction was supplied by the neighboring blacksmith. The many small pulley wheels were likewise turned out in the lathe; and whatever gearing was necessary, was also made by hand. However, when completed and well constructed, these carding machines worked very successfully, and although they ran slowly, were capable of carding many pounds of wool in a day.

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*See page 375 for illustration of one of the first carding machines.

This machine at Hartsouff's grist mill was run until May 26, 1808, when it passed into the possession of Stephen Hollister, who removed it, as hereinafter related. Shortly after this the mills were sold to Peter Babb, who obtained a deed for twenty-nine acres, all the upper part of the Hollow, from Lord Butler, April 19, 1813. Hartsouff had held under Connecticut title; and Butler obtained a patent from Pennsylvania, for all of lot No. 13, in 1812, probably with the understanding that he would convey to Hartsouff or his grantees, the portion of the lot occupied by the mills. It is evident, that Mr. Babb had carried on the works for some years, for we find in the early records, numerous references to Peter Babb's distillery and mills. And this conclusion is borne out by the fact that he had sold to Joseph Swetland* under contract on February 22, 1812, the twenty-nine acres; "together with a set of stills and hogsheads in the still house; with a set of mill irons, with the hosk, and other square timbers now on the premises, towards building a new mill, with a part of the new running gears already made but provided nevertheless, the said Joseph Swetland has agreed, and doth hereby agree as a part of the consideration to pay James Hughes the millwright for his part of building said mill $250."

Mr. Swetland ran the mill until November 29, 1817, when he sold it to Jacob Holgate and William Hicks of Germantown, Pennsylvania. Mr. Hicks quit the business, and sold his interest in 1831 to Mr. Holgate, who continued there until 1840, when the property was sold by the sheriff to John Gore and George W. Little. The latter soon disposed of his interest to Mr. Gore, who owned it until December 6, 1845, when he sold it to Henry Pettebone and Charles Dorrance. During thirteen years of the time that Colonel Dorrance owned it, the miller was Lambert Bonham; and during that time, the mill was rebuilt and improved, so that it was one of the best equipped flour mills in this section.

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*JOSEPH SWETLAND, son of Luke Swetland, was born in Connecticut, in 1767 and died June 22, 1820. For a time he lived in what is now Wyoming, but sold his property there to Samuel Breese, and removed to Hartsouff's Hollow, where he owned the mills as detailed above. Mr. Swetland removed in 1819, to near Mehoopany, in Windham Township, where he pur-

John S. Pettebone purchased it in 1869 from Colonel Dorrance and conveyed it the same year to George H. and Ziba Rice, who owned it until 1872. when they sold it to Charles B. Mandeville. For a number of years, it was conducted by A. H. Coon. The estate of Mr. Mandeville sold it in 1880 to J. C. Fuller from whom Andrew G. Raub purchased it in 1888. He soon after conveyed it to the West Side Water Co., who took away the water rights. Subsequent owners were A. T. Gangloff, R. H. Scureman and G. J. Clark.

Nearly opposite this mill, entering the steep hillside is a drift, one of the first coal mines in Wyoming Valley. Adam Shafer probably opened this mine prior to 1808, under an agreement with Zachariah Hartsouff, for in the deed of Peter Baab to Joseph Swetland, there is a reservation to Adam Shafer of one half of this coal bed.

During the time, that Jacob Holgate owned this property, to wit May 31, 1832, he sold to George W. Little, a strip five rods wide across lot No. 13, and on the southerly side of the Courtdale road; also all that part of lot No. 13, on the easterly side of Toby's creek, from the end of the tail race of the grist mill and down to the Hollenback mill pond, and including the whole of the creek. William Winchell built a foundry upon this Little lot, which was opened for business early in 1833. Mr. Little took over the foundry in 1834, and greatly enlarged and improved it. He was joined in partnership by Benjamin Drake and in 1837 or 1838, they erected, adjoining the foundry, a blast furnace named after Mrs. George W. Little, the "Louisa Furnace." It stood on the east side of the creek. This blast furnace turned out a considerable amount of pig iron, which was sold throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania, and Southern New York.

The works consisted of the blast furnace, coal house, office, bridge house, foundry, tool house, bellows house, and plaster

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chased a farm and where he died. His first wife was Salome Hall, born 1769, died August 12, 1814. He married second, December 11, 1814, Clarissa Seward. His children were: Artemas; Daniel, born 1787, married Lucy, daughter of Nathaniel and Lucy (Gallup) Gates; Hannah, born May 8, 1793, married James Hughes February 25, 1813.

*ANDREW RAUB, was born in Williams Township, Northampton County, Pa., March 1, 1790, and married Moriah Metler, born May 19, 1791, died August 18, 1896. Soon after their marriage, they removed to Mill Hollow, and Mr. Raub died April 11, 1861. Their children were: 1. Thomas, born November 20, 1812, died May 12, 1841, father of Lieutenant James A. Raub; 2. Theodore; 3. Syrinda, born 1814, died October 14, 1886, married January 16, 1840 to Charles Mathers; 4. Samuel, born February 25, 1825, died October 17, 1888, married to Caroline Biesel, born April 20, 1827, died June 28, 1900, children, Anna C., Addie B., Moriah B., and Andrew G.; 5. Andrew, born February 12, 1820, died February 11, 1894, married mill. The works were driven by water power, the mill pond being between it and the Holgate grist mill; and the blast was furnished by a large bellows, which was worked by the water wheel. Mr. Little had a store house across the road; and kept a general store, which was afterwards conducted by Henderson Gaylord and Draper Smith. This store building was later incorporated in the hotel building, now standing at the corner of the Courtdale road. George W. Little built and lived in the house on the opposite corner, which in recent times, was long the home of the late Andrew G. Raub.

Mr. Drake having retired from the business, Mr. Little leased in August 1839, one half interest in the works to Draper Smith; and in October of the same year agreed to sell it to Mr. Smith and take in payment thereof, the notes of Gaylord and Reynolds. Henderson Gaylord now entered into partnership with Mr. Smith, under the firm name, of Gaylord and Smith, and Mr. Little conveyed the property to them in 1841. The iron ore and limestone for the furnace were brought by canal from Columbia county at considerable expense, and the business proving unprofitable, was discontinued. Mr. Gaylord sold the furnace property in 1854 to Samuel Raub. The plaster mill became part of the grist mill, which was conducted for many years by Thomas Wright.

In October 1826, Platt Hitchcock opened a new tannery, a short distance below the grist mill of Holgate and Hicks.

In 1798, Adam Shafer* purchased from Mr. Hartsouff, what was known as the oil mill, and what was probably a part of the Sutton mills. He enlarged his possessions to the west of the oil mill, by purchasing from Peter Babb, in 1813, the lower portion of Babbs part of lot No. 13; and as all that part of lot No. 14 not sold to Hartsouff was owned by Anning Owen and Mr. Shafer, the latter and Mr. Hartsouff, in early times possessed all the mill seats at the Hollow. The water, to supply this mill, was taken from a pond, the dam of which stood below the

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March 25, 1841 to Catherine Pierce, born April 22, 1822, died March 1, 1909: children Draper S., Philip T., Edgar E. and Charles; 6. Daniel Field; 7. Nancy, married to James Atherton; 8. Lana Ann; 9. Martha, born 1827, died 1914, married to Henderson Bonham; 10. Deborah Field born 1828, died May 2, 1914, married December 15, 1868 to Addison J. Church; II. Mary born 1830, died 1900, married to Fuller Bonham.

*Adam Shafer, came from the Minisink Valley, N. Y. His wife was Elizabeth Swartwood, born October 14, 1768. He was the first tavern keeper, the first coal operator, and an early mill owner at Hartsouff's Hollow. He served in the Revolution. He removed to Fairmount Township, where he died after 1840 His children were: Sarah, born April 24, 1786; Adam Jr. a carpenter by trade; Susan married in December 1808 to Malachi Shoemaker; John married January 3, 1811 to Mary Cooper, and was a blacksmith and millwright.

Louisa Furnace, and above the Island School House. It was conveyed by a race, which ran parallel with the road for some distance, and then crossed it near the present Linden Street, and then ran on the westerly side of the road to the oil mill. Traces of this race may still be seen in the yard of the former Henry Schooley house.

The oil mill was used for the manufacture of linseed oil. In early days, every farmer raised a field of flax, from which the wife and daughters made linen cloth for the use of the family; and the flax seed was taken to the oil mill, where it was crushed and the oil pressed out. Mr. Shafer like many other enterprising men failed, and the property was sold in 1825, by the sheriff, to George M. Hollenback. Henry Blackman operated this mill in 1834 and 1835; and John Bartholomew ran it as a plaster and chop mill from 1844, for many years. Mr. Bartholomew sold it in 1871 to Charles N. Lockwood; and he sold the surface of the Bartholomew lot to John D. Cooper and W. G. Payne, who conveyed a little more than an acre around the mill to Henry N. Schooley. Mr. Schooley began there in August 1871, and conducted it as a feed and chop mill for many years.

In May 1798, Stephen Hollister, who understood the dressing of cloth, came to the Hollow and purchased of Zachariah Hartsouff a little over an acre of ground, along the creek, upon which he erected, a mill which was running early in September, 1798, and was the first fulling mill in Wyoming Valley. This stood on the north side of the creek near the bridge and the old and upper road from Bennet Street to the creek ran through this lot.

In 1804, Mr. Hollister erected a new fulling mill at Hartsouff's Hollow which was running, the fall of that year, and was nearly on the site of the present Schooley grist mill. He purchased fifteen acres of land from Daniel Hoyt, a part of lot No. 15, upon which he erected this mill; but did not receive his deed until 1808, probably due to the fact that Mr. Hoyt did not obtain the patent, before. That this latter mill was distinct from the first, and had no connection with it, is indicated from the fact that Mr. Hollister advertised in 1805, that he "was running two fulling mills near Hartsouff's mills." In 1808, he advertised that he "had purchased the carding machine that formerly belonged to Zachariah Hartsouff in Kingston and had removed it about one half mile below where it lately stood." This was to the new mill, which was considerably improved and in 1810 he was carding cotton, as well as wool. The lower mill was taken over in 1811, by Daniel D. Spencer and Isaac Hollister; and Mr. Spencer and Philo C. Curtis were running it in 1813. The upper mill was discontinued, and Peregrine Jones had a shoemaker shop and lived in that locality, in early times. Mr. Jones was the first shoemaker at the Hollow. He was born in 1757 and served in the Revolution. His second wife was Mrs. Anna Fox, mother of John Fox, an early settler at the Hollow. The children of Mr. Jones were: James, and a daughter Mary who married Pelatiah Pierce. Mr. Jones lived until after 1840.

May 15, 1813, Stephen Hollister and his wife Nice, sold the lower carding and fulling mill to Joseph Swetland and James Hughes, who the same day purchased fifteen acres, adjoining and part of lot No. 14, from Adam Shafer.

Messrs. Spencer and Curtis continued to conduct the mill, and in 1816 Isaac A. Wightman was running it. In October of that year George Royal of Germantown, Pa. took over the Swetland woolen mill, and in the spring he was joined by his brother William Royal and Reuben Holgate. These three on April 28, 1817 purchased the mill and seventeen acres of land from Joseph Swetland. They were experienced woolen men and made many improvements, introducing spinning machinery, and employing English weavers. The business was conducted under the name of Holgate Royal & Co. George H. Royal died in 1819, and his interest was sold to Jacob Holgate in 1822.

Water power was furnished to the mill from a pond, the dam of which was built across the creek about three hundred feet above the present Schooley mill, and it was conducted from the pond by a short race, which ran into a large forebay, which

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*James Hughes was born in Maiden Creek, Berks County, Pennsylvania, the son of Hugh Hughes who was a soldier in the Revolution, and great-grandson of Owen Hughes, who settled near Philadelphia about 1715. James Hughes was a millwright and came to Wyoming to build the mill at Hartsouff's Hollow for Peter Babb. He completed this mill for Joseph Swetland, whose daughter Hannah he married August 8, 1813. James Hughes died in 1870 at the old Hughes homestead, which stood back of the present Marinos theatre. He was the father of ten children, two of whom died in infancy and two, Caroline and Hugh, who died before they became of age. The others were: 1. Marry Ann, born 1814, who married Hiram Johnson, and they were the parents of George Johnson, Margaret who married Charles Huff; and Henry C. Johnson: 2. James Jr., born November 19, 1815, married April 2, 1848 Elizabeth Houghton, widow of George Houghton and their children were: Ellen; Maria married Wilson Bishop; George Hughes and Caroline married M. Sponsler. 3. Charles, born October 28, 1821, married Esther Pettebone; 4. Edward, born February 5, 1831, married Elizabeth Norris; 5. Ann Moriah died in 1893 unmarried; 6. Margaret, married John Denniston.

extended nearly the entire distance from the dam to the mill, and was back from the bank of the creek toward Main Street. The tail race crossed the road, later known as Hancock Street, and went diagonally across the lot later occupied by the Houghton block; and the water from it flowed into a small creek or brook which ran near the front of the Marinos theatre. This little brook rose from a spring near the Mathers place, and ran down through the center of the present town, and followed approximately the course of Walnut street to the Lehigh Valley tracks, where it turned northward, crossed Bennet Street and emptied into the Pettebone swamp or marsh. Later this tail race was discontinued and another dug, which emptied into Toby's Creek near the Black Diamond breaker.

In 1822, the firm of Holgate & Bond succeeded the firm of Holgate Royal & Co.; but in April 1825, Robert Bond retired and the business was thereafter conducted by Reuben and James Holgate. The Holgates built a store at the corner of Hancock street and Main street, and were selling merchandise there in 1830. This was the first store in Mill Hollow. Reuben Holgate sold the mill property together with the store to William Hancock April 4, 1839 The woolen mill had been burned down before it was sold. Mr. Hancock erected the present Schooley grist mill in 1839. The first miller was Lambert Bonham, and the mill house and garden were in front of the mill. Mr. Hancock conducted a large general store in the store building for many years. This store building was finally moved across Hancock street, and became the front part of the old Luzerne House; while the back kitchen of this hotel was the old James Holgate house.

In 1865, the estate of Mr. Hancock sold this mill and the land above Hancock street and along Main street to Andrew Lutz and David Atherholt. Mr. Lutz assigned his interest to Mr Atherholt in 1871, and the heirs of the latter conveyed the property to Henry N. Schooley in 1891.

The first blacksmith at Hartsouff's Hollow, was John Bowman, and his shop stood above the Holgate woolen mill. In order, that he might carry on the manufacture of axes, he placed a trip hammer in his shop. The land where this shop stood was purchased from Stephen Hollister in 1812; and the water to furnish power to drive the trip hammer was delivered, from the forebay of the Hollister fulling mill, by a flume. In the deed from Hollister to Swetland and Hughes, there is this recital "Excepting 142 perches conveyed to John Bowman where he resides with the privilege of using the water as now conveyed by a flume or race to the trip hammer of said Bowman, when said water shall not be necessarily required by said Swetland and Hughes." For a time Peletiah Pierce was in partnership with Mr. Bowman, but this was before Mr. Bowman purchased this place and was in 1808. Pierce Bowman succeeded his father as blacksmith at Mill Hollow. This Bowman property was sold to William Hancock January 14, 1846, by the heirs; and was incorporated in the lot sold to David Atherholt.

The back kitchen of the house on Main Street which was owned and rented by George W. Engle, was built by Philip Waters in 1824, George Houghton* the comb maker occupied this house in 1838.

The old Hancock tannery which was located in the rear of Bennet street, and on the lower side, near where it is crossed by the Lehigh Valley tracks, was built by Captain Samuel Thomas in 1811. His brother-in-law Payne Pettebone was in partnership with him at first but soon assigned his interest. Oliver Pettebone conveyed to them all that part of lot No. 16 from a point below the railroad tracks, and the full width of the lot, and extending northwestwardly to the road, which turned off Bennet street and ran to Hollister's fulling mill, a part of the present Main street. Through this land flowed the little brook referred to above and the water from it and the tail race of the woolen mill, which emptied into it were impounded in a mill pond, near the present Jewish synagogue The water from there ran in a race to the tannery, where it furnished the power.

A small part of the Thomas land, running along the present Main Street was sold in 1814 by Captain Thomas to Godfrey Bowman, who built the front part of the house, long occupied by E. W. Abbott and now adjoining the residence of W. J. Parry. Mr. Bowman sold this property in 1816 to Daniel C.

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*George Houghton, was born in Berlin, Massachusetts, and came from there to Kingston after 1830 with Nathan G. Howe, father of the late Lyman G. Howe, to set pumps made by his brother Cyrus Houghton at Berlin. He engaged in the manufacture of horn combs, a business, which he had learned in Massachusetts, at Kingston Village, and in 1838, he removed his shop to Mill Hollow. Mr. Houghton was married January 1, 1838 to Elizabeth Wharram, born in North Burton, England and their children were: William Houghton; Josephine, who married Anderson Smith; Cyrus Houghton; and Sarah, who married Wesley Eastwood.

Marsh. In May 1817, Samuel Thomas sold the tannery and all the accompaning land to Joseph G. Somers of Germantown, Pa., who conducted the tannery from then until January, 1822, when he was sold out by the sheriff, George M. Hollenback, becoming the purchaser. One acre on Bennet Street below its intersection with Main Street was sold to Morris Cramer. Mr. Hollenback sold the tannery to William Hancock*. The Hancock mansion house on Bennet Street, now owned by the W. J. Donlin estate was erected by Mr. Hancock.

One of the last to conduct the tannery was Edgar Marsh, who failed in 1864 when it and a small portion of the land was sold by the sheriff to Samuel Raub, who conveyed it to its former owner the estate of Mr. Hancock.

The great glory of Mill Hollow was the paper mill. It was the conception of that restless Yankee, Henry Buckingham, whose enterprise built up the village about Kingston Corners. In 1810, he beguiled George Chahoon the best mechanic of his time to join him in the endeavor. The proprietors of Kingston Township lent their assistance, and at their meeting held April 9, 1810, instructed their committee to contract "with Henry Buckingham and George Chahoon for a certain portion of the mill lot and certified to Lawrence Myers, Esq. in trust for said proprietors, sufficient for the erection and occupancy of a paper mill, as they the committee and contractors shall agree as to quantity of the land and price of the same." This lot is in the Fourth Division of certified Kingston, and lies in the gap in the mountain above the new state bridge. Through it for a considerable distance flows Toby's Creek

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*Judge William Hancock, was born in Wilkes-Barre, December 18, 1799, and died January 9, 1859, son of Jonathan Hancock, a native of Snow Hill, Maryland, who came to Wilkes-Barre about 1791, and was later manager of the branch of the Philadelphia Bank. William Hancock purchased the tannery built by General Thomas, near the present Luzerne Station and conducted it for many years. He also built the grist mill now owned by H. N. Schooley & Son, and conducted it and a large general store on Main Street in the present Luzerne, having purchased the store and mill site as related above. He was elected a director of the Wyoming Bank, November 20, 1831, and was very successful in all his business enterprises. Mr. Hancock was one of the most prominent citizens in his time, and was elected Associate Judge of Luzerne County in 1851 and served until 1859 His first wife was Laura Smith and their children were: Elizabeth, who married Fuller Reynolds; Catherine, who married Dr. Samuel Blair; Henry; James; and Mary Hancock who was a popular writer for the magazines many years ago. His second wife was Elizabeth Denison, daughter of Lazarus Denison whom he married February 15, 1848. She was bornApril 29, 1812 and died in May 1855; and their children were: 1. Hiram Denison Hancock, born February 9, 1850, died July 25, 1898, who was educated at Wyoming Seminary, Lewisburg Academy, and the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis. He located at Oil City in 1868 and was admitted to the Venango County Bar in 1872, becoming one of the leading lawyers and most prominent citizens of Oil City; 2. Ellen, born January 30, 1851, died February 1, 1919, married Oscar, born November 11, 1848, died February 1, 1919, son of William L. Lance, an early coal operator' and their children were: Oscar, born October 3, 1873, died February 27, 1905; John H., born June 21, 1876; Elizabeth F., born June 28, 1878; Catherine Blair, born September 23, 1879, died October 19, 1911; Mary Hancock, born October 22, 1881, died March 29, 1882; Dr. Ruth Mitchell Lance, born November 20, 1883, died March 18, 1924; Emily H., born February 8, 1886, died April 19, 1886; William L., born March 19, 1887; Hiram H., born July 18, 1889, died January 1, 1891. Oscar Lance was superintendent of the Plymouth Water Company for many years; and when the Spring Brook Water Supply Company was formed, became general manager, which position he held at the time of his death. 3. Emily Hancock, born January 12, 1853, died September 23, 1928, married Rev. Simon P. Hughes. A nephew of Judge Hancock; also named William, born August 2, 1831, died February 8, 1906, located at Wyoming, where he was a merchant for many years. He married Isabella Barker, daughter of Rev. Abel G. Barker.

The paper mill was soon after built and stood against the northern hillside, right where the new state road now passes, and just beyond the new bridge. It was built of wood three stories high and a great overshot wheel furnished the power. A race ran along the hillside from Wildcat Run; the pure water from this mountain brook, fed mostly by springs, was ideal for the manufacture of paper.

The material used was mostly cotton and linen rags, which were sorted and dusted and cut into small squares, and then boiled in a large tank, in a solution of lime. They were then shredded or beaten into pulp in a large oblong tub called the beater, passing between fixed iron knives and a large roller the surface of which likewise contained long iron bars or knives. In this mill, the paper was all made by hand, there being no paper machines in this country at the time of its erection. The rags after being reduced to pulp in this machine, which was driven by power and was about the only part of the process not done by hand were bleached; and the pulp, now a pure white, was stored in the basement or first floor of the mill. From there it was pumped over a strainer from which it flowed to the vat. The paper maker dipped into this vat a mould of fine wire cloth, with a removable frame of wood to keep the pulp from running off. The water drained through the wire cloth, as he lifted it from the vat, in doing which he shook the mould, causing the fibres to intertwine. The frame was then removed, and the wire cloth pressed against a woolen blanket or felt to which the sheet of paper adhered. A number of felts, containing sheets, were then piled one above the other and then placed in a press, which expelled the water. The felts were then removed from the sheets of paper. In the Mill Hollow mill, the rag cleaning and cutting room, and the machinery for beating the pulp, the strainers, vat, and finishing tables were located on the second floor. The third floor was the loft where these wet sheets of paper were hung up on piles to dry. In the winter, this loft was heated by stoves.

The mill was erected in 1810, and was probably running in 1811, for early in 1812 Henry Buckingham & Co. were advertising for sale at the paper mill, printing, writing and wrapping paper, and were paying cash for linen and cotton rags. This mill made the different kinds of paper then in use: foolscap writing paper was made entirely of linen rags; super royal printing paper made of cotton and linen rags; imperial printing paper made of a mixture of rags and old paper; and wrapping paper made of coarse rags, hemp rope and old paper. Either Horace Parker or David Gauss was probably the first paper maker. The latter also carried on at the mill, the business of coloring yarn, the art of mixing and using colors, being fully understood by paper makers. About 1830 John Faser* an experienced and thoroughly trained paper maker from Germany was the superintendent, and occupied a house connected with the mill and located a little below the old toll gate house.

When the mill was working at its best, it employed four men, one boy and ten girls; and they turned out, when working on foolscap, eight reams per day, when working on imperial printing paper four reams per day, when working on super royal, five reams per day, and when working on wrapping paper, ten reams per day. The annual sales of paper in 1829 amounted to $7000.

It seems to have been a sort of stock company in the beginning, but in 1821 when Henry Buckingham failed, it all belonged to him, except four shares owned by Horace Parker. The interest of Mr. Buckingham was sold by the sheriff to Matthias Hollenback, who successfully operated the mill for a number of years. In 1838, it was conducted by McGuire Mathers† &

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*JOHN FASER was born at Enzburg, Kingdom of Wurttemburg, January 26, 1803, the son of Christian and Annie Marie Faser. He completed his apprenticeship and became a master paper maker, March 20, 1828. He arrived in New York on May 16, 1829 and died at Wilkes-Barre April 12, 1882. His wife was Nancy Atherholt, born June 13, 1813, died at Wilkes-Barre' September 18, 1879, daughter of Christian and Cztherine (Fullmer) Atherholt. Their children were: Ziba M. Faser, born August 18, 1837, died April 24, 1881, married September 25, 1873 Lucy Surdevant; Mary E. Faser, born at Wilkes-Barre, July 16, 1840, died at Canon City, Colorado, November 8, 1926; Laura Faser, born December 9, 1841, died April 6, 1909;

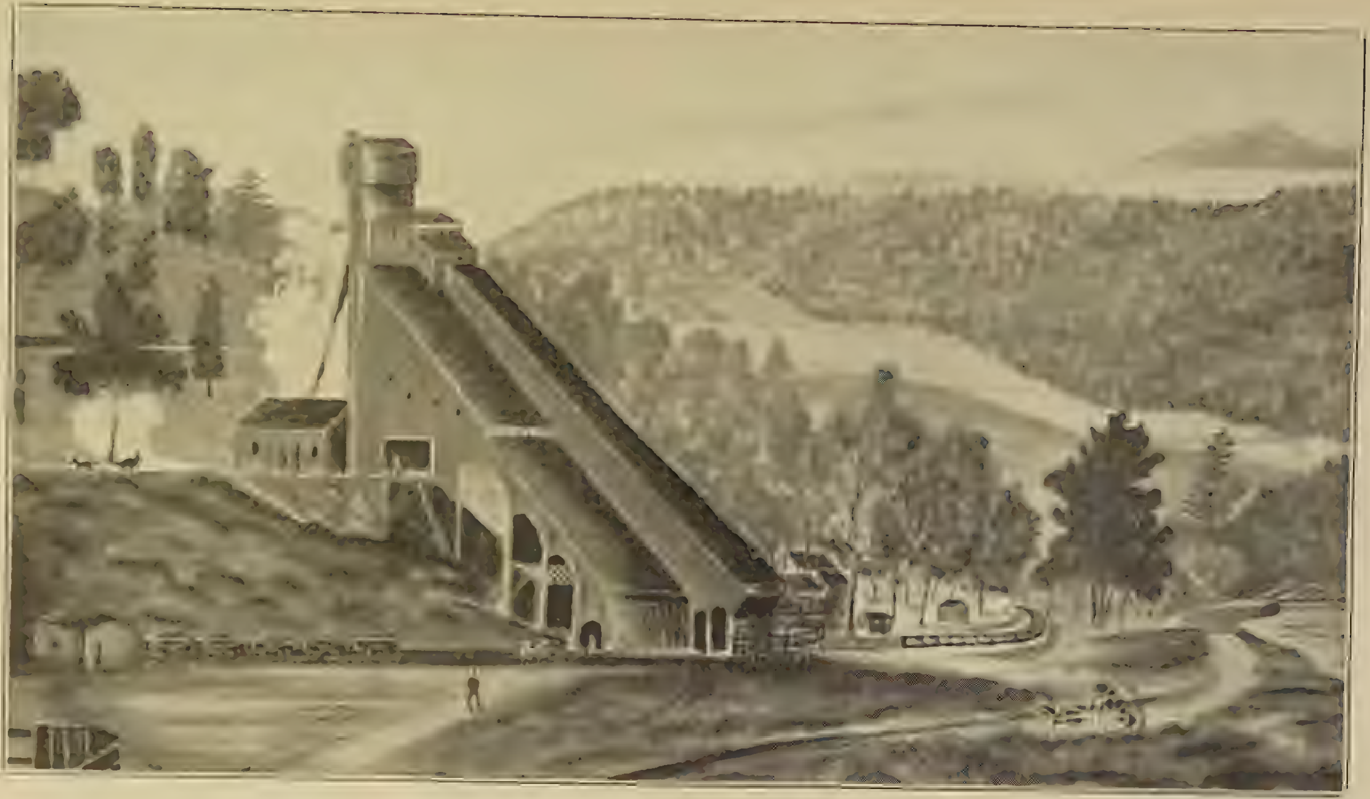
Douglass Smith and Mary E. Faser were married by Reverend S. B. Dodd at Wilkes-Barre, May 6, 1865. Their children were: Harradon Sterling Smith, born at Wilkes-Barre, December 29, 1866; Laura May Smith, born May 6, 1873; Ralph Alexander Smith, born at Wilkes-Barre, January 15, 1877.

Harradon Sterling Smith married Elizabeth Hollister, daughter of Frederick Lee and Lilly Baker Hollister, August 8, 1889. Their children were:

Laura May Smith married Jesse Sharpless Cheyney June 13, 1901.

Ralph Alexander Smith was married at Pennington Gap, Virginia September 20, 1913 to Dona Cecil.

†JAMES MATHER, was born November 20, 1782, and died October 23, 1843, and married Mary Walton born June 12, 1792, died April 26, 1843. Children, 1. Charles, born September 24, 1812, died September 17, 1880, married Syrinda Raub, and their children were: 1. Andrew



The Old East Boston Breaker at Mill Hollow

Co., and soon after closed down having done business for more than twenty-five years.

Among the paper makers who worked in the old mill were: Horace Parker, James Kelley, James Mathers, Harrand Parks, David Gauss, Watres Harmon, William Huffman, Horace Hill, Joseph Turner, David Carey, James Proctor, Isaac Keller, Jacob Roth, Joseph Hemelright, John Faser, Benjamin Keller, and Peter McGuire.*

After 1830, the country began to change rapidly, canals and railroads were being built. The era of steam was here. Places, with abundant water power, no longer monopolized manufacturing. The decline of Mill Hollow had begun. The introduction of machinery and the advent of the steam engine paralyzed its industries. Before 1845, the great wheel of the paper mill was stopped, never to turn again; the chimney of the Louisa Furnace had fallen down; the woolen mill was gone and naught remained of the ancient activities of Mill Hollow, but the grist mills, which have survived to the present time.

A post office was established under the name of Mill Hollow, with Amelia L. Abbott as post mistress, April 17, 1873, and due to the incorporation of the borough under the name of Luzerne, the name of the post office was changed from Mill Hollow to Luzerne, October 30, 1882. Her successors were: Elford P. Fitzgerald, appointed February 2, 1888; Walter B. Edwards, appointed February 2, 1889; John T. Killeen appointed April 5, 1893; E. W. Roberts appointed May 11, 1898; Emma Lobb, appointed April 27, 1900. The office was discontinued October 27, 1904, to be made a station of Wilkes-Barre.

A petition for the incorporation of the village of Mill Hollow was presented to court and numbered to 89 June Sessions 1882. It was laid before the Grand Jury, May 3, 1882, and reported

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Raub, died February 20, 1901; 2. James Orlando born January 20, 1844, died December 23, 1894; 3. Charles L. born January 25, 1846, died December 13, 1846; Sterling R., born January 25, 1846, died May 23, 1857; Daniel F., born June 20, 1847, died September 16, 1848; Francis Marion; Gaylord Judd, born 1857, died February 4, 1917; Elisha Corey; Samuel Fell. 2. John, born November 1, 1813, died June 14, 1890, married Anna Stroh, born April 9, 1820, died February 8, 1855, and their children were: Samantha, married Jabez Carver Jackson; William P., born 1841, died December 18, 1911; Mary; Martha Louise, married George A. Boughtin; Stella; Ziba, born October 25, 1858, died March 11, 1888; Charles; Frank; James H.; John D. 3. Jane married Thomas Haynes. 4. Solomon. 5. Mary, born February 2, 1823, died March 9, 1883, married to George Courtright, born April 26, 1818, died February 28, 1903. 6. Ziba, born February 9, 1825, died February 6, 1898, married July 31, 1849, to Alvira D. Blakslee, born October 9, 1830, died March 20, 1889. 7. Emily born August 27, 1823 died May 27, 1904.

*PETER McGUIRE was born September 21, 1800, and died August 5, 1865; and his wife Mary was born November 3, 1807, and died August 25, 1851 and both are buried in Forty Fort Cemetery. He was a paper maker by trade and early came to Mill Hollow. At one time favorably. The decree was made September 23, 1882, that "The Village of Mill Hollow and a portion of Kingston Township be incorporated as the Borough of Luzerne, beginning at the middle of the public road leading to Wilkes-Barre, on the westerly side of the D. L. & W. R. R. and thence extending along the westerly side of the same north 46¼ degrees east 139¼ perches to line of Mrs. Sarah Bennet and estate of Oliver Pettebone, and thence by same north 30 degrees 10 minutes west 280 perches to the middle of an old mine road; thence along the same south 65 degrees, west 28¼ perches to a corner; thence south 83 degrees west 113 perches; thence north 64 degrees west 53¼ perches to two sycamore trees in Samuel Raub's mill pond; thence by line of John Dorrance estate south 30 degrees; 10 minutes east 186¼ perches to a corner; thence east 30 perches to a corner; thence south 30 degrees 10 minutes east 203 perches to the beginning, containing 296 acres." The first election was fixed at the Island school house, on Tuesday first Monday of November 1882, and Charles C. Green was appointed to give notice of election and the following were named: Thomas Wright as judge of election, and James Washburn and Addison C. Church as inspectors.

By decree of court made November 15, 1889, the boundaries were enlarged as follows: "Beginning on a line between the Third and Fourth divisions at the corner of lots Nos. 12 and 13; thence north 44¾ degrees; east 21.2 perches to a corner; thence north 2 degrees east 81 perches, thence north 12 degrees east 134 perches, thence north 22 degrees east 17 perches to line between lots Nos. 18 and 19, and thence along the same south 34 degrees east about 250 perches to line of Luzerne Borough and Kingston Township; thence along said line south 65 degrees west 28¼ perches; thence south 83 degrees west 113 perches; thence north 64 degrees west 53¼ perches to the beginning, containing about 150 acres."

By decree of court made February 3, 1890, Luzerne Borough was divided into four wards.

The following have been elected officers of Luzerne Borough, only the dates of their first election being given

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he was one of the proprietors of the paper mill which was then conducted by the firm of McGuire Mathers & Co. Three of his sons were soldiers in the Civil War: Rufus Private, Second Battalion Veteran Reserve Corps; William, Private Company H, 58th Regiment, Pa. Volunteers and James L., Private Company F, 203d Regiment Pa. Volunteers.

Justices of the Peace: Edward E. Ross 1886; Henry C. Johnson, John McKay 1888; R. C. Wallace 1893; William F. Barry 1898; Robert J. Blair 1898.

Constables: James Baines 1884; G. L. Morgan 1885; S. H. Reese 1886; W. J. Sanders 1887; John Kileen 1888; William Welter 1889; Charles Barney 1890; John W. Tucker, William Stoneham 1890; Alexander Litz 1891; E. W. Roberts, Joel Nafus 1893; G. J. Walty 1894; E. J. Sullivan, James Boner, Frank Crogan, 1897; M. F. Kileen, James Washburn, Milo Lloyd 1903; J. J. McGroarty, J. T. Kileen, 1900; Daniel Mulraney 1905; M. C. Frantz, Bert Miner, 1908; Anthony Machinas, William Raber 1911; Daniel C. Featherman, 1915; Thomas Ford, L. J. Ferrell, Eugene Riley, George W. Wallace 1919; Freas Hoffman, Thomas Kroski, Joseph Martin, Dominick Wycavage 1923; Alfred Uller, P. J. Boyle 1927.

Assessors: J. B. Cole 1884; James Anderson 1885; E. P. Fitzgerald 1888; C. Mathers 1889; James N. Haight 1890; W. R. Ferrell 1890; J. T. Welter, S. A. Martin, 1891; C. Walter, G. Ross, N. Honeywell, W. Prym 1894; W. J. Parry, H. Worthy 1895; J. Young, W. H. Piffer 1898; A. C. Church 1901; Harry Stevers, B. F. Parry, Jacob Rosmick.

Auditors: A. J. Brace 1884; W. H. Faulds 1885; E. B. Wolfe 1886; G. J. Clarke 1887; W. O. Ferrell 1888; Ira Jenkins 1889; D. O. Coughlin, James Moore 1890; R. Adams 1892; John A. Parry 1893; R. M. Swetland 1894; W. F. Barry 1895; J. C. Harter 1896; C. J. Beitlman 1898; Charles W. Palmer 1899; S. M. McCullough, Irvin Hendershot 1900; R. D. Washburn, W. B. Allegar 1902; Logan J. Ferrell 1904; D. B. Gildea 1906; B. C. Rice 1907; George F. Sage 1909; J. Carr 1911; S. C. Holley 1915; Percy Griffith, John Guido 1917; James Graham 1919; Stanley Stogoski 1923; George R. Seple, Walter T. Rowett 1927; Ray Austin 1929.

School Directors: John Thomas, H. N. Schooley, William Brumage 1884; Calvin Perrin, Henry Dudley, Nathaniel Ellis 1885; William H. Moses, George F. McGuire 1886; J. B. Weida, H. M. Vermilye, G. T. Mattock 1887; A. Raynor 1888; W. H. Faulds, Richard Clarke 1889; Thomas Tague 1891; S. Johns, W. Rowley 1892; James Moore 1893; John Parry, David Morris 1894; S. P. Frantz, George Engle 1895; P. M. Austin, W. J. Bishop 1896; John B. Clark, R. H. Scureman 1898; H. H. Hughes 1899; C. A. Bloom, G. J. Mathers 1903; W. J. Wicox, Thomas Sage 1905; L. G. McCullough 1906; Dr. M. E. Marvin 1907; Peter Henderson, E. B. Wolfe, 1910; W. J. Donlin 1911; W. F. Austin 1913; W. J. Parry, David Hottenstein 1915; J. W. Carr, Theron M. Wolfe 1919; Howard O. Frantz, Albert L. Jones, 1921; William R. Thomas, Martin Porter 1923; John Stoneham 1925; Ernest Hewitt 1927; Clinton H. Roberts, Z. H. Keller 1929.

Burgesses: John McKay 1884; A. J. Brace 1885; M. W. Ellis 1886; E. E. Ross 1887; Henry Johnson 1888; R. C. Wallace 1890; William Wallace 1891; S. Walker 1892; E. W. Roberts 1893; W. B. Ferrell 1894; W. J. Donlin 1897; J. L. McGuire 1900; George Carr 1903; W. J. Parry 1906; John McNelis 1909; B. B. Schultz 1923; D. T. Llewellyn 1921; Fred J. Banta 1925.

Councilmen: Thomas Wright, Lyman Harris, M. Lapha, George Engle, J. L. Gunton 1884; Andrew Mathers, W. H. Crocker 1885; Gordon Hughes, James A. Moore 1886; M. W. Ellis, 1887; G. B. Schooley, G. W. Thompson, P. M. Austin 1888; George H. Ross, W. B. Edwards 1889; Alexander Snyder Henry Worthing 1890; David Pembleton, David Morris, J. N. Haight, E. T. Jones, E. D. Arnold 1891; J. Young, B. Marcy, N. Vanarsdale, A. Church 1892; Henry Nothof, Jacob Engle 1893; B. S. Thompson, W. W. Pifer, H. M. Vermilye, James McCatron 1894; E. W. Roberts, Nym Seward, Charles Marcy, W. F. Barry, A. Hewitt, T. B. Rood, H. O. Boyle 1896; James Campbell, E. L. Porter, Thomas Sage 1897; F. Underwood, George H. Hughes, M. Kester 1898; John Monahan, John Kileen, Charles N. Boyle

1899; Robert Clayton 1900; E. M. Keller, S. J. Rodda 1901; Simon P. Smith 1902; J. D. Tiffany, Ira T. Honeywell, John Hill, William Fahey, Joseph Burns, H. R. Church 1904; G. J. Clark, Thomas Grogan 1905; E. W. Roberts, H. J. Stevers, Clinton Carey, John M. Davenport, Frank Grolick 1906; Peter Henderson, William Forsyth 1907; G. J. Mathers 1908; John Fulton, John J. McCarthy, John Breckenridge 1910; W. J. Thomas, Benjamin S. Frantz, 1911; Joseph Urbanovitz, Henry C. Johnson, A. G. Raub 1913; B. F. Parry, Henry Keuntzler 1915; Frank Jennings, M. A. Rifenbury, Frank B. Layou, J. B. Crossin, Frank Roach 1917; Joseph W. Zelinsky, John Aderson, Jacob Rosnick, John Eves, John Luksic 1921; Isadore Hochreiter 1923; Con Boyle, John G. Lukish, Joseph P. Nemetz 1925; Herbert Cleaves, Steven Martinack 1927.

High Constables: A. R. Pembleton 1884; D. H. Jones 1885; John Bromage 1886; G. W. Rowe 1887; John Tucker 1890; William Stoneham 1891; A. Litz 1892; F. Williamson, Alfred Utter, Dominick Wyncavage John Dorosky.

Tax Collectors: M. W. Williamson 1886; Henry C. Johnson 1887; G. S. Hughes 1888; W. J. Parry 1889; Lewis Featherman 1891; Sherman P. Frantz 1893; William Prynn; W. B. Allegar 1897; Alexander Snyder 1900; Daniel F. Daley 1909; George Knarr 1917; Henry Nothoff 1929

EDWARDSVILLE BOROUGH

The decree incorporating Edwardsville Borough was made June 16, 1884; and the first election was fixed for Tuesday, July 8, 1884 at the school house. Daniel S. Davis was appointed to give notice of the election and Daniel R. Davis was appointed judge of election; and Reese M. Davis and Michael Kelly inspectors. Only a small part of the borough was taken out of Kingston Township, the larger part being taken from Plymouth Township. The part of Kingston Township incorporated in the Borough is bounded as follows: "Beginning at a point on the west side of the Blindtown road where said road crosses Toby's Creek, running thence north 64 degrees, 38 minutes east 269 feet at the northerly side of and up said stream; thence continuing along said stream north 51 degrees, 15 minutes, east 385¼ feet; thence along said stream north 8 degrees 2 minutes east 285 feet; thence along said stream 81 degrees, 51 minutes east 383¼ feet to a point on the railroad; thence through lands of the M. F. Myers estate, north 13 degrees 45 minutes west 424 feet; thence north 38 degrees 50 minutes west 597 feet; thence north 54 degrees 12 minutes west 795 feet to the northern side of the Myers road; thence along line between said Myers estate and Loveland estate north 29 degrees 5 minutes west 1447 feet, thence south 56 degrees, 55 minutes west to the Blindtown road, and thence along the said road to the place of beginning.

Many years later the strip of land belonging to the Myers estate north of the foregoing boundary and between the then line of the borough and the Kingston Borough line was annexed to Edwardsville Borough.

COURTDALE BOROUGH

The building of the breakers at Mill Hollow, brought in a considerable population; and likewise the development of the Kingston Coal Company gave employment to a large number of men. Situated, advantageously between the two was the little village, which grew up along the back road leading from Larksville to the present Luzerne Borough. This village was built upon land belonging to the heirs of Thomas Pringle who sold off building lots from this part of their farm. In their honor it was at first called Pringleville. A Methodist church was soon built, and good substantial homes were erected. It was populated by industrious, thrifty people and was always free from saloons.

In 1897 a petition was presented to the court for the incorporation of the village into a borough, and September 6, 1897, the court made a decree, incorporating "The town of Pringleville, into the Borough of Courtdale, beginning at a point 622 feet from the center of the public road leading from Larksville to Luzerne, on the Plymouth Township line; thence along said line north 28¼ degrees west 6019 feet to a corner of Jackson Township; thence north 6¼ degrees east 2615 feet to the turnpike; thence along said turnpike, its various courses, and thence leaving the turnpike run to the Luzerne Borough line; thence along said borough line south 28¼ degrees east 2833 feet; thence south 60½ degrees west 5153 feet to the beginning." It was ordered that the first election be held at the Junior Mechanic Hall on Tuesday, September 21, 1897, and Oliver Simonson was designated to give notice of said election; and the following were appointed: Walter Parks, judge of election; Elijah Titus and William Pollock, inspectors. The borough was named in honor of the Courtright* family, who owned a farm in the upper end of the borough. A postoffice was established November 19, 1902, with Stephen A. Dodson as postmaster. His successors were: S. Clinton Updyke, appointed December 2, 1905; and C. E. Dubrick appointed January 8, 1908. The office was discontinued November 3, 1913 upon the establishment of free delivery.

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*George Courtright, son of John and Louisa Searle Courtright, was born April 26, 1818 died February 28, 1903, married Mary, daughter of James Mathers, born February 8, 1823, died March 8, 1883.

The following were elected officers of Courtdale Borough, only the dates of their first election being given:

Burgesses: J. B. Amey 1897; George W. Williams; Thomas J. Williams 1909; Arthur C. Updyke 1913; Harvey Wyant 1917; John Fralick 1921; Clifford Edwards.

Councilmen: S. A. Dodson, Elijah Blaine, William Courtright, John Bryden, George H. Kester, Godfrey Deitrick 1897; George Blackman, William P. Bryant 1898; Oliver Simonson, Albert Hill, S. C. Updyke, Frank Hawley 1903; John Covert, C. N. Kester 1904; Merritt Nafus 1905; Thomas Little 1909; Walter J. Parks, John Lloyd 1911; George McKechnie, John Evans, F. Lasherk, W. N. Bryden 1913; William Rowlands 1917; Lincoln Shortz, Emanuel Craig, William Rowett 1919; Gus Updyke 1921; S. J. Williams, Arthur Wyant 1923; William Corby, George Wilson, Albert Bryden, Otto Kuttenberg, William J. Moreck 1927; Stewart C. Casterline, Anthony Moreck 1929.

Justices of the Peace: George Turhill, Harry Whitman 1897; C. N. Kester 1900; J. B. Amey 1903; George W. Williams 1911; A. C. Updyke 1913; D. Edwards 1915; Clifford Edwards 1919.

Constables: H. P. Boyer, R. Dickson, John Bryden, A. C. Updyke. Thomas Bennett, John Lawler, Fred Hill, Henry Kusman, Edward L. Hoppes,

High Constables: Robert Dixon, William Baker, George Morgan, William G. Bennett, George Cobleigh, Francis Jolly, John Romanchek, John A. Bryden.

Assessors: A. J. Frear, J. Blannett, Wilbur Kester, John Fraley, Richard Moore.

Tax Collectors: H. E. Dodson 1897; Richard Moore 1905; Patrick Connelly; J. H. Kritzberger 1921.

School Directors: Henry Fraley, John Davis, James Dodson, Jacob Hunt, Wilber Kester, William Blannett 1897; Samuel Stull, J. Hewitt, J. Baker, F. Hawley 1898; John Seebold 1899; John Blackman, D. H. Dodson, 1902; John F. Blannett 1903; William Rowett 1905; William Kester, N. Williams, Oliver Simonson 1905; David Griffith, Frank A. Pollock 1909; Elijah Blaine, David J. Jenkins 1911; M. Calkins, F. Gossert 1915; Anson Newberry, William Rhydderich 1919; Edward Taylor, John Cobert 1921; Thomas Bennett 1923; Thomas Bailey 1927; Rolland Kester 1929.

Auditors: T. C. Milligan, J. Blannett, J. Covert, Arthur Updyke, David Griffith, Richard Moore, Thomas J. Williams, C. E. Dubrick, Charles Updyke, Arthur Covert, A. J. Frear, George DeFrain, Bradley Roushey, George Courtright, George Updyke, J. S. Williams, Fred Davis, Thomas Bennett, Thomas B. Davis, John N. Bryden, D. F. Dodson, Roy Dare, Charles L. Taylor, S. C. Casterline, Harvey Dodson, Howard Phillips.

SWOYERSVILLE BOROUGH

Two mining villages grew up in what is now this borough, one at Maltby due to the development of the Maltby mines and one at Brodericks due to the opening of the Harry E. mines. There was also a hamlet north of Maltby called Dickville. This borough was named in honor of J. H. Swoyer, who owned the mining operations before the firm of Simpson and Watkins later the Temple Iron Company purchased them.

The decree of the court incorporating this borough was made December 17, 1898 and set forth that the "town of Maltby together with surrounding territory be incorporated under the title of the Borough of Swoyersville, beginning where the dividing line of lots Nos 25 and 26 intersects the D. L. & W. R. R. right of way; thence along said center line south west to a point where Reilay lane crosses said tracks, being the corner of Forty Fort Borough; thence along Forty Fort Borough line to the southwest line of lot No. 19; thence northwest along line of lot No. 19, 6440 feet, thence north 55¼ degrees east 1768 feet to the northeast line of lot No. 21; thence along the same south 34¼ degrees east 1800 feet to a corner; thence by a line passing 200 feet on the west side of the Maltby shaft north 55¼ degrees east 7736 feet to line between lots Nos. 25 and 26; thence along said line south 34¼ degrees east 3576 feet to the beginning.

The first election was fixed for February 21, 1899 at the Shoemaker school house and the house of Thomas Laverick; and James McManus was designated to give notice of said election. An appeal was taken to the Superior Court, but the decree was affirmed January 3, 1900; and the time of election was changed to February 20, 1900.

A postoffice was established at Maltby, May 12, 1893 with Thomas J. O'Malley, as postmaster; and he was succeeded by Stephen Lukesh December 23, 1897. The office was discontinued November 3, 1912.

The following were elected officers of Swoyersville Borough:

Burgesses: Andrew Merinco 1900; Mark Laverick 1903; John Roach 1906; Joseph Coughlin 1909; Jacob Miller 1913; P. J. Hayden 1917; Joseph Cheslick 1929.

Councilmen: Thomas Graham, D. A. Sullivan, Cornelius Burns, Edward Kirby, Terrence McGovern, James McQuade 1900; John Lukesh, James Hosey 1901; John Moore, Neil Burns, John Perrin 1902; William Burns, John Bohac, Andrew Koval, B. McManus 1904; Andrew Marinko, Patrick Laven 1905; James Cawley 1906; George Smith, John Urban 1907; John Martin, Andrew Harilla, Daniel Reynolds 1909; Thomas Lavin, Daniel Walsh 1910; Michael Vasko, Alexander Buzitski, John Quinn 1911; Steve Podskovich, Joseph Lostick, Michael Troyan 1913; John Sanko, L. Pitcavage, Morris Kleeman 1915; John Marinko, Joseph Zulowski, William Troyan 1919; J. D. Salta, Joseph Cheslik, John Evanko 1921; Steven Marcien, George Ruggie, John Wanchox 1925; John Adams, Steven Rusnitz, 1927; George Koftcho, Louis Boniface 1929.

High Constables: John Stofko, 1901; John Fairfield 1905; Stanley Barloski 1915; Joseph McGovern 1919; George Kender 1927.

Justices of the Peace: Henry E. Miller, Thomas J. O'Malley 1900; James Snee 1902; Patrick J. Hayden 1907; Kazmir Surminski 1915.

Constables: James McManus, Jacob Miller, James Donley, Frank Jackson, Thomas Cawley, William Nowik, Rudolph Lustick, Andrew Sitar, George Smith, Thomas Mikus, Samuel Miller and John J. Hosey.

Assessors: Peter McGowan, Henry E. Miller, John Snee, H. Banta, Daniel Campbell, T. H. Burns, Joseph Pofcho, Michael J. Lavin, Alexander Grozorchak, John Casey, John Zinn.

School Directors: Thomas Tigue, James Coughlin, John Dunn, Frank Jennings, John Hayden, Peter Kerolick 1900; William Taffa, P. Callahan, Morris Regan 1903; T. J. O'Malley, M. Shermon, Frank Rosenko 1905; Thomas Hayden 1906; Patrick McGinley, P. J. Conley, John Pointon, Frank Gonglofski, John Condon 1908; J. P. McGurko 1910; John Evanko, George Guss, John P. Brennan 1911; Joseph Sorwak 1913; David Walsh 1915; Harry Uran, Thomas J. Callahan, M. A. Lavin 1917; Thomas Hayden, Joseph Sarwicki 1919; Morris Regan, George Mathews, Eugune Miller 1923; William C. Miles, 1927; Steve A. Farvis, Stephen J. Podskoch Jr., John McDonnell 1929.

Auditors: John Urban, Andrew Hardish, Charles Argood, David Cobb, Walter Boyle, Andrew Volansky, Michael Boker, George Haladick, Frank Fosco, John McHale, George Lamoreaux, John Callahan, Joseph Saxon, M. F. Shepa, John Wizenko, Jr.

Tax Collectors: Anthony Callahan, Martin Shields, Martin Brennan, J. M. Kalna, Thomas Callahan, Patrick J. Hayden.

PRINGLE BOROUGH

In another chapter, the division of the township and the erection of Pringle Township has been detailed. A petition was presented at the September Sessions of the court in 1912, by the inhabitants of the villages of Pringle and Cooper Hill, comprising the township of Pringle and asking that it be incorporated as a borough. A decree was made January 17, 1914, incorporating the present Borough of Pringle, and defining its boundaries as follows: "Beginning at a point in the north line of Dorranceton Borough between lots Nos. 13 and 14, Third Division Certified Kingston, thence along said line, being the line of Luzerne Borough north 34 degrees west 3410 feet to a corner, thence south 86 degrees 10 minutes west still along the line of Luzerne Borough, across said lot No. 13, 495 feet to a corner in line between lots No. 12 and No. 13 Third Division Certified Kingston Township; thence still along line of Luzerne Borough north 34 degrees west 205 feet to the southeast corner of Courtdale Borough; thence along the south line of Courtdale Borough across lots 12 to 1 inclusive third Division Certified Kingston Township south 56 degrees west 5231 feet to the southwest corner of Courtdale Borough and in line between Kingston and Plymouth Townships, also being line of Larksville Borough; thence along said Kingston and Plymouth line south 34 degrees east 1217 feet to a corner in line of Edwardsville Borough; thence north 56 degrees east 910 feet and across lots Nos. 1 and 2 to a point in line between lots Nos. 2 and 3; thence along said line and line of Edwardsville Borough north 34 degrees west 1013 feet to the northwest corner of Myers Estate; thence north 56 degrees east along Edwardsville line 873¼ feet to a point in line between lots Nos. 4 and 5; thence along said line south 34 degrees east 2326 feet to a corner in line of Kingston Borough and the center of the Middle or Myers road; thence along the same North 55 degrees 31 minutes, east 587 feet; thence north 56 degrees 31 minutes east 1133 feet; thence north 39 degrees 11 minutes east 228 feet; thence north 45 degrees 1 minute east 513 feet to a corner in line between lots Nos. 10 and 11 and thence along said line and line of Kingston Borough south 34 degrees 4 minutes east 1852 feet to the line of Dorranceton Borough thence along the same north 42 degrees 40 minutes east 1471.81 feet to the beginning."

The first election was fixed for March 3, 1914, at the house of Martin Quinn. The following were appointed. Howard Eckenrode, judge of election; Archibald Spears and Michael Moran, inspectors; and John Kelly to give notice of the election. The borough was named Pringle in honor of Thomas Pringle* upon whose farm the village of Pringle Hill was built.

A postoffice was established at Pringle, February 2, 1900, with James Halligan as postmaster. He was succeeded by Mary A. Halligan appointed May 25, 1903; and by Edward Hannigan appointed February 17, 1905. The office was discontinued November 3, 1912.

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*Thomas Pringle was born in Orange County, New York, November 2, 1791, a son of Samuel and Martha Lameraux Pringle, who settled in Plymouth Township in 1794. He was married September 5, 1813 to Elizabeth Harvey, born September 20, 1790, a daughter of Elisha Harvey of Plymouth. In February 1837, he purchased the large farm in Kingston, upon which is now built, a considerable part of Kingston Borough and the Boroughs of Pringle and Courtdale, and moved into the old farm house, which stood on Pringle Street, or the lane as it was then called, at the head of Chestnut Street, until it was demolished in 1897. He died there May 22, 1861, and his wife died May 26, 1868. His children were: 1. Sarah, born September 2, 1814, married Elias Culver, born April 12, 1812, died May 24, 1890, and their children were: Thomas P. Culver, Susan Rose, married L. T. Seward, Elizabeth married first Peter Good, second L. T. Wildoner; Frances Culver and Samuel Culver; 2. Rosanna Harvey born July 4, 1816, died unmarried, August 5, 1875; 3. Martha born March 20, 1818, died in infancy; 4. Samuel born March 30, 1818; 5. Millicent born May 5, 1820, died unmarried; 6. George L. born May 20, 1822, killed by lightning March 19, 1886; 7. Caroline born May 20, 1822, died unmarried; 8. Alexander J., born September 3, 1824 was an early teacher in the public schools, and later a merchant in Kingston. He died July 24, 1881. Mr. Pringle married October 21, 1858, Mary, born October 4, 1833, died May 8, 1911, daughter of George Price, born in England in 1804, died November 2, 1859. He owned the farm facing the avenue and just above Price Street. George Price had another daughter who married John D. Cooper, after whom Cooper Hill was named. The only child of Alexander J. Pringle was Nelson G., born April 5, 1860, married Sarah Adula, born October 27, 1862, died April 19, 1922, daughter of Dr. David Copeland.

The following were elected officers of Pringle Township:

School Directors: Philip Kearns, Archie Spears, Bernard McHugh, Anthony Savage, Anthony Angley, Michael Quinn, Thomas Kelly, Thomas McGough, Patrick Graven, Martin Heffernan, Joseph Bryant, John Gostinski, William Martin, Martin McEnrue, Thomas Hanigan.

Supervisors: Thomas Handley, Michael Leeson, Joseph Beleski, James B. Monighan, Patrick Martin, Michael Shields, John Connors, Anthony Moran.

Township Clerks: Patrick Gibbons, Archie Spears.

Auditors: Martin Flanagan, Christopher Sullivan, James Mulherin, Benjamin McEnny, Martin Brennan, John Kelly, John Mullarkey, John McKechnie, James Griffin, Peter Condon.

Tax Collectors: Michael Condon, Timothy Connelly.

The following have been elected officers of Pringle Borough:

School Directors: Michael Angley, Thomas McGough, Joseph Bryant, Anthony Angley, Philip Kearns, John Bulcavage, Joseph Coslosky, Edward Kelly, William Savage, Frank Handley.

Burgesses: Peter Berry, John Connor, Andrew Leeson, Lewis Bunoski.

Councilmen: James Handley, Michael Kovak, Alexander Sileski, Thomas Gill, Bartel Sirtchen, James L. Lindsay, George Houck, Charles Carey, Alexander Sileski, John Cadden, Alphonse DeMiller, M. F. Kalas, Michael Kales, Leon Smith, Peter Berry, M. J. Handley, Michael Moran, Michael Brennan, Philip Kearns, Stanley Kollis, Martin Shields, B. Namictko, Frank Matiwas, John Zolnerowsky, Elmer McKechnie, John Kachirak, Thomas Kelly, Michael Moran.

Auditors: Patrick Keefe, James Brennan, Daniel Cicarello.

Tax Collectors: Timothy Connolly, Patrick O'Keefe.

High Constables: John Madden, Thomas Kelly.

Constables: William Sudinick, James Handley.

Justices of the Peace: James Martin, Michael Leeson.

CHAPTER XIX.

1773—1929

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

THE PUBLIC LANDS AND PROPRIETORS FUND—THE CERTIFIED TOWNSHIPS—FIRST DIVISION INTO DISTRICTS IN 1773—EARLY SCHOOLS—THE FIRST SCHOOL BOARD UNDER THE ACT OF 1834—THE ACADEMY—THE LUZERNE PRESBYTERIAL INSTITUTE—WYOMING SEMINARY.

It is said the Connecticut Yankees, who settled Wyoming Valley, established the first public schools in Pennsylvania; and Kingston Township made provision for the education of its children, as early as any of the other settling towns. The Susquehanna Company, as heretofore related, set aside in each of the Seventeen Townships, land for the support of public worship, and to maintain common schools. Many years ago, these public lands were either leased or sold, and the money derived therefrom, constituted, what has long been called the Proprietors Fund. Some of the best land in Kingston Township was segregated for public use, as will be seen by reference to the land allotment, in another section of this book. As long, as Connecticut maintained her jurisdiction, these lands were held in trust by town committees, and by no action, of the civil authorities of that state, could they be diverted from the purposes of the original donation. But if, as the Pennsylvania courts said, that, after the Decree of Trenton, the Connecticut settlers had no right to the land, which they occupied, and only obtained their titles by the bounty of the Commonwealth, it is conclusive, that a trust in land, merely under Connecticut claim of title, had no legal existence in Pennsylvania.

Under the Act of 1799, it is true, Pennsylvania granted the lands, in fifteen townships, to the actual occupiers prior to the Decree of Trenton; but this was the bounty of the Commonwealth, to which Chief Justice Tilghman referred. Pennsylvania recognized none of the Connecticut institutions and in fact, the Seventeen Townships had no legal existence under Connecticut law. They were merely subdivisions of the land purchased, by the whole body of proprietors in 1754, and never civil jurisdictions. Under Connecticut law, there was only one town, Westmoreland, and it comprehended all of the Seventeen Townships.

The Commissioners, under the Act of 1799, were directed to have a survey made of each of the fifteen townships, within the purview of the act, and to certify the same to the land office. They were also directed to issue certificates, to the actual occupiers, of the tracts of land, who held under the Susquehanna Company. It naturally followed, that the townships so surveyed and certified, were called certified townships, but they had no legal existence, as such, until many years later, when Pennsylvania created a corporation, in each one of them, to manage the public lands.

This came about as follows. The Commissioners recognized the committees, in the various townships, who had charge of the public lands, and issued certificates to them. In Kingston Township, these certificates were issued to Lawrence Myers, in trust for the proprietors. It is highly questionable, if the Commissioners had any authority conferred upon them, by the law, under which they were appointed, to recognize this Connecticut trust. Certainly, they by their grant had no right to contravene, the established law of the Commonwealth. An English law, in force in Pennsylvania, called the Statute of Mortmain, provides that conveyances of land for superstitious uses (to religious persons) are absolutely void, and that lands conveyed to corporations, not for superstitious uses, are subject to appropriation by the Commonwealth, unless these corporations, by their charters or Act of Assembly, are licensed to hold lands of a certain value. This law, has now been modified by legislation, to permit church associations or trustees to hold lands, for religious uses; but corporations are still limited by law as to the amount of property they may hold. Therefore, as to a two thirds interest, in these public lands, that being for superstitious uses (the gospel ministry and the minister), the certificates issued by the Commissioners, to the trustees of the proprietors, if otherwise, they had any validity, were absolutely void. The failure of title, out of the Commonwealth, seems to have been recognized by the early lawyers, and in 1822, an act was passed by the Pennsylvania legislature, incorporating the

Trustees of the Proprietors of the Certified Township of Kingston, providing the manner of their election, declaring all prior grants to the committees invalid, but by this act vesting in the corporation, title to all the public lands in the township, and confirming all leases and grants made by the former committees; and limiting the property to be held by the corporation to $10,000. This was the first of a series of similar acts, subsequently passed and applying to the other sixteen townships. This Act gave legal existence to the Certified Township of Kingston, and recognized, the method of administration of the public lands pursued by the New England people, since 1769. While from 1782 to 1822, the trustees had no legal title, to these lands, vested in them, they believed they were administering a valid trust and therefore, had no power of alienation. Consequently, the only disposition of these public lands made by them, was by lease, usually for the term of 999 years. In the Act of 1822, power was given, the Trustees to make sales, when authorized by the vote of the proprietors; and the prior leases were validated. The land was sold or leased years ago; but within the last thirty years, it was discovered, that the coal had been illegally mined, under some of these leased lands of Kingston Township; and as a consequence of the suits, then instituted by the Trustees, a considerable sum now aggregating nearly $150,000 has been accumulated. By an Act of the Legislature in 1929, provision is made for the distribution of all this fund, in excess of $10,000, among all the school districts into which the certified township has been divided; and the distribution is now pending in the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas. This power of distribution was the exercise of the Commonwealth's right of escheat, under the Statute of Mortmain, as to the amount of property held by the corporation, in excess of the amount limited by the charter.

The first schools in Kingston Township were maintained from the income of these public lands, which were then leased to neighboring farmers. Later they were practically sold under long term leases and from 1800, it was the interest on the public money, which supported the schools. The township was first divided into three school districts in 1773; one district adjoining the Exeter line and running as far south as the present site of the monument; the next district starting there and running to Forty Fort; and the third running from Forty Fort to the Plymouth line.

In the year 1799, the record called the Proprietors Book, begins, and there is extended reference to the public schools, in the minutes of a meeting held at Philip Jackson's, April 13, 1805. It was then "Voted that the interest of the public money shall be appropriated to the support of the schools in the township, and be divided into four districts agreeably to the number of scholars, in each district, between the ages of four and fifteen years. Voted that the three districts viz, 1, 2, and 3 shall keep and support a good regular school in each district, nine months in this present year, or not be entitled to any part of the public money; and also the 4th district shall keep and support a good school as long as their proportion of the public money will pay the hire of a school master. Voted that all the said districts remain as they are now laid out, viz the 1st district to begin at the line between Exeter and Kingston and to run as far southerly as to include Belding Swetland; 2nd district to begin at said Swetland's and run as far southerly as to include Forty Fort house; 3d district to begin at said Forty Fort and run to Plymouth line; 4th district to include all on the west side of the mountain."

The Proprietors Committee, until 1822, and then the Trustees of the Proprietors managed the public school system of Kingston Township. They appointed a committee, each year to take the census of the children; and also inspectors of the schools. We find, that at a meeting held April 13, 1812, it was "Voted that a committee of five be appointed in this township for the purpose of examining and hiring school masters, and two of which shall constitute a board to examine a candidate, and if approved by them, a certificate under their hands shall be full and satisfactory evidence of such person's qualifications in all respects as stated in said certificate; and unless a school shall be taught in each district in this township, by an instructor qualified as above directed, the district so neglecting or refusing to comply with these regulations shall not be entitled to their proportion of the public money." Philip Myers, David Perkins, Samuel Carver, Henry Buckingham, and Elias Hoyt were appointed the examining committee.

In 1814, at a Proprietor's meeting held April 23d, it was determined to divide the lower district, in such manner as to form a new district in and contiguous to what is commonly known as Hartsouff's Hollow, to be called the Hollow District. In 1817, Elias Hoyt was instructed to obtain patents in trust for the proprietors, of all the uncertified land. In 1822, there were six school districts as follows: Upper Mountain District, number of children 52, share of public money $27.41; Hollow District, children 59, share of public money $31.11; Upper District, children 100, share of public money $43.27; Lower Mountain District, number of children 67, share of public money $35.34; Middle District, number of children 74, share of public money $39.03; Lower District share of public money $45.88. In 1838, that part of the Upper District west of Abraham's Creek was made a separate district to be known as Union. In 1834, the year the Common School Act was passed, there were eight school districts in the township as follows: No. 1, Lower District, Kingston Village, number of children 133, share of public money $92.14; No. 2, Middle District, Forty Fort, number of children 88, share of public money $58.41; No. 3, Upper District, New Troy, number of children 54, share of public money $41.96; No. 4, Union District, Shoemaker's Mills, number of children 48, share of public money $40.31; No. 5, Upper Mountain District, Carverton, number of children 77, share of public money $52.44; No. 6 Middle Mountain District, Harris Hill, number of children 49, share of public money $39.49; No. 7, Lower Mountain District, Trucksville, number of children 19, share of public money $12.34; No. 8, Hollow District, Mill Hollow, number of children 47, share of public money $44.42. Until 1838, the Trustees continued to some extent to direct the public schools, although in 1836, they made the distribution of public money according to the census as taken by the school directors.

Under the Common School Act of 1834, school directors were chosen in each municipal subdivision of the state, and Kingston Township was fortunate in having Sharp D. Lewis as one of its first directors. Mr. Lewis came of an intellectual family, his grandfather William Lewis, having been leader of the Philadelphia Bar, at the time of the Revolution. Sharp D. Lewis was at the time conducting a weekly newspaper in Kingston

Village, and lent to the cause of public education, his intelligence and high ideals. At the first Luzerne County School Convention, held at the Court House, in May 1835, Mr. Lewis was the chairman. The first board of school directors, of Kingston Township, organized by electing Jacob Rice, president, and Sharp D. Lewis secretary. At a meeting held January 18, 1836, the township was divided into eight districts; but this was merely an adoption of the division previously made by the Trustees. From 1836, the management of the public schools was entirely in the hands of the school directors elected by popular vote.

There was a public fund and trustees were elected until about forty years ago, when the elections were discontinued. A little less than thirty years ago, this fund, which then amounted to several thousand dollars, and had been in the hands of Hon. Steuben Jenkins was distributed, by Thomas H. Atherton, Esq., acting under a court order, to the various school districts. When the discovery was made that the coal under some of the public land had been illegally mined, the election of trustees was revived in 1906, and there has been a board in existence since. After the Pennsylvania system of common schools was instituted, at times, the interest on the public money was used to maintain summer schools.

The earliest school record, the writer has been able to examine is the minute book of school meetings held in the lower district (now Kingston Borough), which begins in 1795. In that year, those residing in the district entered into an agreement to build a new school house, and subscribed for that purpose. This building was erected on land of Oliver Pettebone "at the corner of the broad road where the road turns to go to Hartsouff's mill (now corner of Wyoming Avenue and Bennet Street). The building was eighteen feet wide and twenty-four feet long. Prior to that time, school was probably held in about the same location, that being near the center of the district; either in a log school house or some dwelling. The new building was up-to-date, for the time and was furnished with a stove, which was evidently an innovation. On December 15, 1795, a school meeting was held at the house of John Dorrance, and the committee was "empowered to hire an accomplished master to teach said school for three months and not to exceed ten dollars per month, together with his board and lodging." Asa Boughton was engaged as school master and entered into a written contract, his compensation for the three months being £11 5s. In 1796, Elder Jacob Drake was engaged to hold religious services in the lower school house or in the neighborhood. In 1798, Thomas Patterson was hired as schoolmaster for three months at "twenty-five dollars, one-third to be paid in money and two-thirds of the above sum to be paid in grain." In 1800, Ezra Blackman was hired as school master at $9 per month. In 1801, William L. Horton was hired, and it was agreed "to pay said school master one dollar and twenty-five cents per scholar and we board him, and to pay one-half cash and the other half in good merchantable grain at the market price." In 1847, this district was divided about on the line of the present Market Street to College Street; thence north along College Street, to line between lots Nos. 4 and 5; and thence along said line to the present Grove Street; and the part south of it was called District No. 10. The school for this new district was held in the class house, near the present Main Street school building.

At the same time, the territory north of the road leading from Heft's mill to Rice's fulling mill was made a new district, called the Middle Mountain District, No. 9. The remainder of the territory was called the Middle Mountain District No. 6.

The number of school districts continued at ten, until the incorporation of Kingston Borough in 1857, when Districts Nos. 1 and 10 were separated from the township. The public schools in Kingston Borough were first conducted in a small frame building, on the site of the present Main Street school, and also in the Class House adjoining, which had belonged to the Methodist Society. As the borough grew, a school was established in the Presbyterian Lecture Room on the Avenue, now occupied by Bigley's store; and in 1884, a six room brick building was built on Main Street, where the high school was conducted. In 1896, the Maple Street building was first used as a high school and in 1908, a new high school building was opened on Main Street. In the Dorranceton section, the first school was held in the John Dorrance farm house at the corner of Union Street, and the first teacher was Mrs. E. L. Crisman. The Dorrance Street building was erected in 1888 and the first high school conducted there. The building on Rutter Avenue was used as a high school until the opening of the splendid new high school building on Chester Street in 1929.

In Luzerne, the old Island School house erected in 1818 was used until after the incorporation of the borough, when the schools were removed to the present site. The first Wyoming school was located on Eighth Street not far below the corner; and later removed to a site on the avenue, just above Laycock's Hotel. In Forty Fort an early school house was between the Shoemaker residence and the stone bridge and this was later known as the Reilay school house.

Among the early teachers in Kingston Township were: Abraham N. Haun, Frederick Stewart, Samuel B. Welles, John Bennet, Charles C. Curtis, Ziba Smith, Thomas Thompson, Manuel L. Pestena, W. W. Ketcham, Gideon Underwood Jr., Gordon Pike, Imla Drake, John Hazleton, Francis I. Smith, David R. Carrier, Jonathan K. Peck, David Schooley, Giles LaBar, Abel Marcy, (the first county superintendent), Alexander J. Pringle, Murray V. Carpenter, John Davidson, Daniel R. Laycock, George Wolfe, E. R. Wolfe, William P. Mathers, J. H. Boyce, E. L. Underwood, Martha Locke, Ellen Reese, Marilla Seeley, Caroline Seeley, Emily Carle, and Miss Pugh.

THE ACADEMY

The people of Kingston Township, early felt the necessity of more advanced instruction, than that provided by the proprietors in the common schools, and with commendable zeal, as early as 1812, they erected an academy. This building, which stood on the easterly side of Wyoming Avenue, between Butler and Reynolds Streets contained a fair sized assembly room, in which for many years public meetings and church services were held. The building had a belfry, which was provided with a large bell, probably purchased by the Presbyterians who held their services there, before the erection of their church, which stood a few rods above. The academy was torn down shortly after 1850.

It is unlikely any school was held in it, after the establishment of the Seminary, and instruction there, may have been discontinued some years before. The academy was conducted as a select school, and it is improbable that there was more than one teacher at a time, although he was undoubtedly assisted, in the common branches, by an elder pupil. These academies were institutions of every progressive New England town and were succeeded many years ago, by the public graded and high schools.

In 1830, the course of instruction in the Kingston Academy, included in addition to the common branches, Greek and Latin, elements of astronomy, natural and moral philosophy, and chemistry.

The first teacher was Thomas Bartlett, but in December 1813, he engaged in the store business, in partnership with Elias Hoyt. Mr. Bartlett was an estimable young man and highly regarded in the township. He was born in 1789 and died May 14, 1814. A later teacher was John Bennet son of Andrew Bennet and grandson of Thomas Bennet, who is noted elsewhere. Mr. Sievers came after him, and in 1830 the teacher was Mr. Madell. Winthrop W. Ketcham was probably the last teacher. He was born in Wilkes-Barre June 29, 1820, and was largely self educated. When the Seminary was established, he became one of the first teachers. He married Sarah H. Urquhart September 15, 1847. In 1848, he was a teacher in Girard College, and was admitted to the Luzerne County Bar, January 8, 1850. He served in the State Legislature and in 1864, was appointed by President Lincoln, solicitor of the Court of Claims. He was a delegate to both Republican National Conventions which nominated Mr. Lincoln, and was a prominent candidate for the Republican nominations for governor in 1866, 1869 and 1872. Mr. Ketcham was elected to Congress in 1874, and was soon after appointed Judge of the United States Circuit Court. For some years prior to 1860, he lived on College Street, where now is located, the residence of Dr. Sprague. Judge Ketcham died December 6, 1879.

The most celebrated man who taught in the old Academy, however, was William H. Bissell, who was born at Hartwick, Otsego County, N. Y., April 25, 1811. He earned his way by teaching school, through the Philadelphia Medical College, from which he graduated in 1835. He practiced medicine in Steuben County, N. Y. for two years, and then removed to Illinois, where he was elected to the legislature. He there made a reputation as an able debater, and determined to study law, being admitted to the bar at Belleville, Ill., where he resided. He served as a captain in the Mexican War, and was elected to the National House of Representatives in the 31st, 32nd, and 33d Congresses. During his congressional career, he engaged in an acrimonious debate with Jefferson Davis, later President of the Confederacy, which resulted in Mr. Bissell being challenged by Mr. Davis, to fight a duel. Mr. Bissell accepted, chose muskets as the weapons, to be used at thirty paces. Mr. Davis' friends then interferred, he withdrew the challenge, and the duel was never fought. Mr. Bissell was elected Governor of Illinois, on the Republican ticket in 1856, and was subsequently reelected, dying at Springfield, Ill., March 18, 1860, while he was governor.

In 1817, a man named D. Chesbrough conducted a private military school in Kingston, and probably used the Academy. The war of 1812, being then but lately ended, military schools were very popular in the United States.

THE LUZERNE PRESBYTERIAL INSTITUTE.

In 1849, the Presbytery of Luzerne, determined to found an educational institution, and committees were appointed for that purpose, the following from what is now Wyoming Borough being members: James Jenkins, T. F. Atherton, William Swetland and Henry Hice. It was determined to locate the institution at Wyoming, and Rev. Thomas P. Hunt was appointed agent to solicit subscriptions, and collect the necessary money to erect a building. A building committee, was appointed, composed of William Swetland, James Jenkins, and T. F. Atherton, and they were instructed to erect a suitable building at a cost not exceeding $3000. The present brick building, containing suitable class rooms was erected under the direction of Mr. Fell who was the architect.

The institution was called, The Luzerne Presbyterial Institute, and was formally opened May 1, 1849, with the following as the first faculty: Principal, Rev. Dr. J. Delville Mitchell; at a salary of $500 per year; Reuben Lowrie at a salary of $500; F. T. Smith at a salary of $350; Miss Mary Whelan at a salary of $300, with an additional $50 for music and drawing. During its continuance, under the auspices of the Presbytery, the Institute, had as principals: Rev. J. Delville Mitchell; Reuben

Post Lowrie, Rev. C. R. Lane, Rev. Paul Eugene Stevenson, Rev. J. C. Knapp, Rev. Henry Rinker, Rev. A. R. King, and Rev. E. G. Harned. Mr. Lowrie became a missionary in China.

The Institute had no endowment, and during the later years, considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining the necessary funds to carry on the work. In 1871, the Presbytery relinquished control, and J. W. Crawford conducted the school for about a year. At this time, the property was advertised for sale by the sheriff, but friends of the institution raised enough money to liquidate the indebtedness. In 1872, another effort was made by the Presbytery to carry on the school, and Rev. Lewis Bailer was appointed principal.

This school existed for about twenty-five years and during that time, many were prepared there, for college and for their work in life. After the discontinuance of the school, the building was used only by the Sunday school of the Wyoming Presbyterian church. In 1913, the Trustees transferred the title of the property to the Wyoming Presbyterian church.

WYOMING SEMINARY

The most noted institution, of learning in Northeastern Pennsylvania, is Wyoming Seminary. With small beginnings and uncertain support, it has succeeded where others failed. In the same territory, other schools, more auspiciously founded, have long ceased to exist and are now forgotten. The Seminary was fortunately located in a town, which esteemed morality and intelligence. It has the traditional background of a religious community, for almost within the shadow of its halls, the Methodist church began its struggle on the American frontier. Nowhere else was there, so appropriate a place, to locate, what was to become the greatest secondary school of the greatest Protestant communion in the United States. Not only was it fortunately situated, by the side of the church which he founded; but in the very place, where Anning Owen first sowed the seeds of the faith, which have borne fruition in the great success of the Methodist church, throughout Northern Pennsylvania, Western New York and Upper Canada. The Seminary was also fortunate in being ably sustained by the men of means of Kingston Township, such as Thomas Myers, William Swetland, Payne Pettebone and Abram Nesbitt. Fortunate in its location and its benefactors, it has been more fortunate in the choice of men, who have guided its destinies, through the more than eighty years of its existence.

The first institution of higher learning, in the Oneida Conference was Cazenovia Seminary, situated in Northern Central New York; and the need of an institution in the southern part of that extended conference was early felt. The following, the realization of that hope, is in the first recorded minutes of Wyoming Seminary "At the session of the Oneida Conference held in Wilkes-Barre, 9th of August 1843. *David Holmes, †Lucian S. Bennett, Thomas Myers, Madison F. Myers, Lord Butler, Sharp D. Lewis and ‡Silas Comfort were appointed trustees of a contemplated seminary of learning to be located either in Wilkes-Barre or Kingston, according to the largest amount of subscription on the first of October, to which time, the subscriptions were to be kept open.

"The committee appointed by Conference, for the purpose, met on Monday, the 2nd of October, to canvass the subscriptions, when they found there was a preponderance in favor of Kingston."

The real founder of Wyoming Seminary was *Rev. William Reddy, the assistant preacher on the Kingston Circuit, due to whose tremendous enthusiasm, the subscriptions were obtained, which located it in Kingston, and built its first building.

The same minutes contain the record of the first meeting. "The first meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wyoming Seminary was held in Wilkesbarre, 3d October 1843. On motion, D. Holmes was appointed chairman and S. Comfort, secretary. D. Holmes, Jr., S. D. Lewis, Thomas Myers, Madison F. Myers and S. Comfort were present. David Holmes, Jr., was elected

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*David Holmes was in 1843, pastor of the Franklin Street Methodist church of Wilkes-Barre. He became presiding elder of the Susquehanna and Cayuga Districts of the Oneida Conference, and later removed to Indiana, where he was principal of the Battle Ground Collegiate Institute, and principal of Northwestern Indiana College.

†Lucian S. Bennett was born in 1810, and died August 3, 1851. He was at the time pastor of the Kingston and Wyoming Circuit, and because of failing health was a little later superannuated and resided in Kingston for several years, finally removing to Wilkes-Barre, where he died.

‡Silas Comfort was presiding elder of the Susquehanna District in 1843. He was a scholarly man, and an author of considerable note. He died at Union, N Y., May 18, 1868.

*William Reddy was in 1843, assistant on the Kingston Circuit. In his youth, he was unfortunate in the loss of one of his legs, and this misfortune determined him to get an education, and led to his entering the ministry. He was a man of great energy and became a distinguished preacher. In 1846, he was president of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary. Dr. Reddy visited Kingston, in 1894, expecting to take part, in the exercises held on the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the institution, but was taken suddenly ill and died in one of the Seminary rooms.

president, Silas Comfort Secretary and Madison F. Myers, Treasurer." A little later it was decided to make application for a charter, under the title of the "Wyoming Seminary of the Oneida Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church." The charter was approved January 25, 1845, and the incorporators were: Silas Comfort, David Shepherd,* Perry G. White,* William C. Reynolds, Reuben Nelson, Madison F. Myers, Thomas Myers, Sharp D. Lewis and Miner S. Blackman. It was set forth, in the charter, that the Seminary was to be located in the Village of Kingston. By Act of the General Assembly approved April 11, 1853, the charter was amended, by changing the name to the "Wyoming Seminary of the Wyoming Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

Thomas Myers, who is noted elsewhere, was the first real benefactor. He gave the land, upon which the building was erected. At a meeting held November 22, 1843, bids for the erection of the building were received, the highest was $5400, the lowest, that of Lyman Hurlbut, $4,195. The contract, however, was let to Thomas Myers for $4700; and the following January, the location of the building was definitely fixed thirteen feet northwest of a line parallel with the front of the church. The Methodist church was then located where Market Street now is, and faced College Street. In 1856, when the railroad was opened, it was moved to about the present site, facing College Street, and later was destroyed by fire.

The building, then erected, was a brick edifice three stories high, seventy by thirty-seven feet. The space in the first floor was distributed into a hall twelve feet wide, chapel 24 by 29 feet, recitation room 13 by 29 feet, schoolroom for primary department 20 by 29 feet; another recitation room and a suitable room for the principal's office.

The ladies' hall 21½ feet by 29 feet, parallel to which was a recitation room of small dimensions and five rooms designated as students rooms occupied the second floor. The third floor was appropriated entirely to students rooms of which there were thirteen in number, and there may have been two more in the attic story making twenty in all.

DAVID SHEPHERD was born in Augusta, Oneida County, New York, June 2, 1802. He joined the Genesee Conference in 1824, and in 1844-45 was pastor of the Wilkes-Barre church He died in Washington, D. C , October 8, 1876.

*P. G. WHITE was pastor of the Kingston church 1844-45.

On April 25, 1844, it was decided to open the school, the first Wednesday of the following September, and a resolution was passed to elect a principal. Six men were named, and the order of choice was: first, Robert Emory; second, James G. Blair; third, Rev. Dr. George Peck; fourth, Reuben Nelson; fifth, Nelson Rounds; sixth, Charles Burritt. Miss Ruth S. Ingalls, who then conducted a select school in Kingston was elected preceptress. It seems that Mr. Emory, Mr. Blair and Dr. Peck would not accept the appointment, as the president and secretary had been instructed to correspond with them in the order of their appointment; but that the fourth choice Reuben Nelson* did accept, in a letter, which was read at a meeting of the trustees held July 3d. His salary was fixed at $500 for the year.

The courses of instruction were fixed as follows:

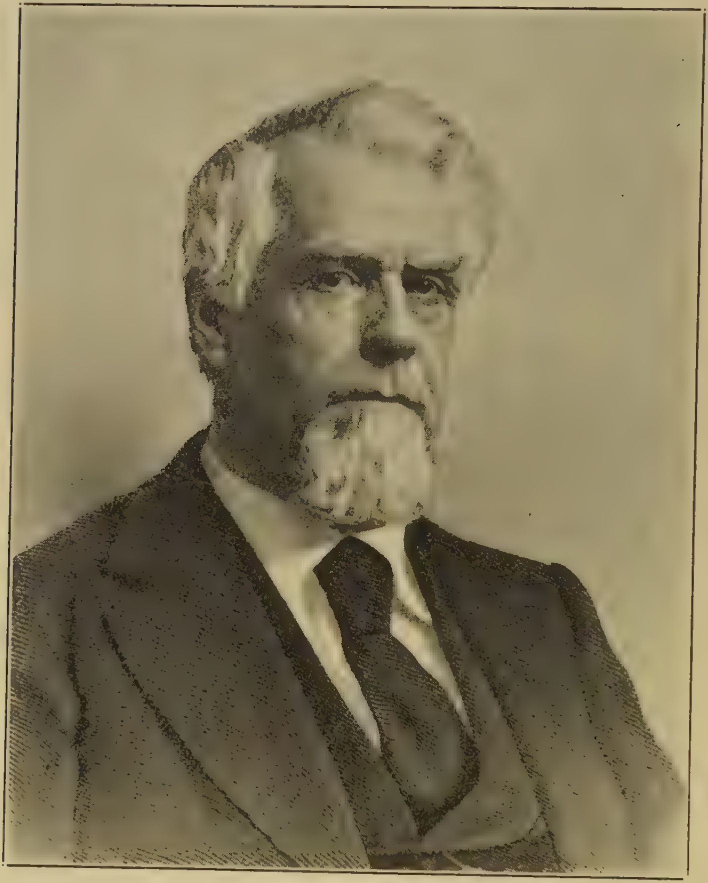
The tuition the first year in the primary department was, for English grammar, once through arithmetic as far as vulgar fractions, spelling, reading, writing and geography, $8 for an academic year. In the academic department, for common English for a year $12, higher English $16, ancient and modern languages $22, music with use of instrument $28, and drawing and painting $10. The academic year was divided into three terms. The room rent was $1.00 per term. Rev. J. B. Benham was appointed travelling agent at a salary of $200 per year and expenses.

The building was completed and accepted from Mr. Myers, the contractor September 17, 1844; and the opening day was, Wednesday, September 25, 1844. The committee in charge was composed of Silas Comfort, William C. Reynolds, M. S. Blackman, William Hancock, Platt Hitchcock, Bester Payne, and Levi Hoyt.

There were present Rev. Dr. Durbin of Dickinson College who delivered the address; Rev. Thomas Bowman of Berwick, Rev. Abel Barker, Hon. George W. Woodward, and Hon.

REUBEN NELSON was born in Andes, N. Y., December 13, 1818, and died of paralysis in New York City, February 20, 1879. He became a local preacher at the age of seventeen years and was educated at Hartwick Seminary Otsego County, N. Y. He was principal of Otsego Academy, Cooperstown, N. Y., and became a member of the Conference in 1842. From 1844 to 1872, he was principal of Wyoming Seminary, with the exception of a little more than a year, when he was presiding elder of the Wyoming District 1862-63. He was secretary of the Conference for ten years and delegate to the General Conference in 1860, 1864, 1868, 1872 and 1876. He received the degree of A. M. from Union College, and D. D. from Dickinson College. He was agent of the Methodist Book Concern from 1872 to 1879.

B. A. Bidlack. A stage in front of the eastern entrance had been erected, and the audience was seated in front. The exercises commenced at 10:30 A. M. Rev. D. A. Shepherd read the Scriptures; Rev. Thomas Bowman offered prayer; and Rev. Dr. Durbin delivered the address.



Rev. Dr. Reuben Nelson, First Principal of Wyoming Seminary

The faculty at the end of the first year was as follows: Prof. Reuben Nelson, principal and teacher of Latin and Greek. Mrs. Eliza Y. York, preceptress. Prof. E. F. Ferris, teacher of the Normal Department; Mr. W. W. Ketcham, teacher of mathematics and also a student; Miss Sarah Tomkins, teacher of elementary English; Mrs. Jane S. Nelson, wife of Prof. Nelson, teacher of drawing and painting; Miss Emily H. Schott, teacher of music. In 1845, W. W. Ketcham succeeded Mr. Ferris, and in 1849, Young C. Smith was elected assistant male teacher.

Seminary Buildings — Swetland Hall, Administration Hall, Union Hall. The One With the Steeple Is the Nelson Memorial Hall.

It seems that Thomas Myers erected a boarding hall at the corner of College Street, the present site of the Sprague Memorial soon after the opening of the Seminary, and in 1848, the trustees leased it from him, for $150 per year. In 1850, William Swetland purchased this boarding hall, which he deeded to the Seminary in 1853. In 1850, it was proposed to erect an additional hall on the northeast end of the main building at a cost of $3000; and this building was subsequently erected by Mr. Swetland, who bore the entire expense, it being called Swetland Hall. The Hon. Ziba Bennett donated a library.

Early in the morning of March 15, 1853, the main building and Swetland Hall were destroyed by fire. This catastrophe prostrated the resolute men, who had the Seminary in charge, for only a few hours; and three days later, they determined to rebuild larger and better buildings. Rev. T. D. Walker was appointed special agent to solicit funds. The school was continued for the term, the students being distributed with private families throughout the town.

On March 23d, the trustees living in Wilkes-Barre, Lord Butler, W. W. Loomis and Ziba Bennett offered a subscription of $7000, and an acre of ground, one half mile south of the center of the borough, providing the Seminary buildings were erected in Wilkes-Barre. The offer was declined by a vote of six to three, those voting against it, being William Swetland, Rev. George Peck, William C. Reynolds, M. F. Myers, Reuben Nelson and Rev. D. A. Shepherd; and those in favor Lord Butler, Ziba Bennett, and W. W. Loomis. Considerable feeling was engendered, and a long statement of the respective contentions was drawn up and placed on the minutes.

A plan was adopted, that those contributing $1000 be elected life directors; and the first of these life directors were: Amos York Smith, Isaac C. Shoemaker, Payne Pettebone and George Swetland. The solicitation of funds, successfully proceeded, and the Rev. George Landon was engaged to sell scholarships. By his persuasive eloquence, 703 of these scholarships were disposed of before October 26, 1854. In June, 1853, William Swetland offered to bear the entire expense of rebuilding, an enlarged Swetland Hall. Due to all these efforts, the three present buildings, Swetland Hall, Administration Hall, and Union Hall were erected and on October 26, 1854, Reuben Marcy, who erected the buildings, received the final payment, in a note for $1189. These buildings were at first heated by stoves, the cost of a furnace, $2200, being considered prohibitive. These buildings were for many years without bath rooms and toilets.

In 1853, the Seminary began conducting the boarding hall, the first steward being Rev. A. Bronson, who continued to manage it until April 17, 1857, when Mrs. Edward D. Whiston was elected stewardess. In 1857, there was a serious disagreement among the trustees, and as a result, Dr. Nelson resigned as principal, but was immediately reelected by a vote of 6 to 2. That year, the annual report showed the grounds and buildings to be worth $31,000; apparatus $1500; furniture $7500; library $1200 or a total of $41,000. A comparison of tuition charges in 1861 with the present is interesting. In that year, the charge for a year's tuition, with board, washing, room furnished and fuel was fixed at $110.

Rev. Dr. L. L. Sprague, President of Wyoming Seminary

On March 3, 1862, Dr. Nelson resigned as principal and Professor Young C. Smith was elected his successor, but he only continued as principal until January 9, 1863, when he resigned and Dr. Nelson was reelected, he accepting only on condition that a commercial department be opened.

The boarding hall was destroyed by fire, in August 1863, and shortly afterwards, the Seminary sold the lot on the corner of College Street to Dr. Nelson for $1500; and he erected on it, the large residence, which has been the home of the president for many years. This building was removed to a lot above the gymnasium in 1928. The basement of administration hall was fitted up as a dining room, soon after the destruction of the boarding hall, and continued to be so used until 1899, when it was changed to its present location.

Professor Winfield S. Smith was engaged as head of the Commercial Department, which was opened in 1863. In 1866, the salary of Dr. Nelson was only $1500, and he lived in his own house. In 1867, Centenary Hall was erected and named in honor of the celebration of the founding, in 1765, of the first Methodist Society. On May 27, 1867, Professor L. L. Sprague was elected principal of the Commercial Department. In 1870, Dr. Nelson was granted a leave of absence, in order that he might visit Europe, and in 1872, he resigned, in order to accept the agency of the Methodist Book Concern.

Professor David Copeland[*] was elected president July 25, 1872, and he continued to fill that position, until the fall of 1882, when failing health compelled him to resign.

Upon the resignation of Dr. Copeland, Rev. L. L. Sprague,[†] who had been head of the Commercial Department was elected the fourth president of the Seminary and during his incumbency, the greatest progress has been made. Professor W. L. Dean* was elected head of the Commercial Department to succeed Dr. Sprague, and has continued in that capacity since.

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[*] DAVID COPELAND, D. D., was born at Braintree, Vermont, December 21 1832, and died at Royalton, Vermont, December 6, 1882. He was educated at Vermont Conference Seminary and graduated from Wesleyan University in 1855. He was principal of Monroe Academy, Henrietta, N. Y., in 1855; teacher in Fally Seminary, Fulton, N. Y., in 1856; principal Springville Academy, Springville, N. Y.; president of Hillsboro Female College, Hillsboro, Ohio, 1865 to 1872, when he was elected president of the Seminary. He joined the Genesee Conference in 1858. In 1875, Lafayette College conferred upon him the degree of Ph. D., and in 1877, Syracuse and Wesleyan, the degree of D. D. In 1880, he was elected a delegate to the General Conference. His widow resided in Kingston for many years, with her daughter the late Mrs. N. G. Pringle.

[†] LEVI L. SPRAGUE, D. D , was born in Beekman, Dutchess County, N. Y., December 23, 1844. In 1847, his father removed to Susquehanna County, Pa., and continued there until 1858, when he settled at LeRaysville in Bradford County. Dr. Sprague was educated at LeRaysville Academy, of which he was later principal; Eastman Business College, and Wyoming Seminary from which he graduated in 1868. On May 27, 1867. he was elected head of the Commercial Department of the Seminary which position he filled until 1882, when he was elected President of the Seminary. He received the degree of A. M., from Allegheny College, in 1877, and D. D. from Wesleyan University in 1886. He is the author of Practical Bookkeeping, Practical Speller, and Practical Grammar. During the time, that Dr. Sprague was a student at Wyoming Seminary, he was registered as a law student with Hon. W. W. Ketcham and pursued his law studies for nearly two years, but abandoned them to enter the ministry. He joined the Wyoming Conference in 1874. He is a trustee of Syracuse University, and now at the age of eighty-five is one of the oldest men in Kingston, and still the active and energetic president of Wyoming Seminary. It is not too much to say, that to the efficiency of Dr. Sprague as an educator and administrator, the Seminary has progressed, until today, it is among the three or four leading preparatory schools of the United States. Dr. Sprague married December 22, 1869, Jennie E. Russell of Otsego, N. Y., now deceased, and their children are Dr. Emory Russell Sprague of Syracuse, N. Y., and Laura J., who resides with her father.

Nelson Memorial Hall was erected in 1887, as a memorial to Dr. Nelson. This chapel will seat 600 and was erected at a cost of $30,000. Nesbitt Science Hall was completed in 1894, and was the gift of Abram Nesbitt. The Pettebone Gymnasium was erected by the late Caroline M. Pettebone in 1897.

In 1894, subscriptions were obtained, and the athletic field on Chestnut Street, containing nearly five acres, was purchased. By the munificence of Abram G. Nesbitt, the field was enclosed by a concrete fence, and a concrete stadium was erected as a memorial to his brother George F. Nesbitt. Subscriptions were obtained in the amount of $750,000, and the funds thus obtained have been used in the erection of the new heating plant; the removal of the president's house and the erection of the splendid building known as the Sprague Memorial in 1929, and named in honor of Dr. L. L. Sprague.

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*PROFESSOR WILLIS L. DEAN, a descendant of Ezra Dean, who named the town, Kingston, and of Jonathan Dean, one of the "First Forty", was born at Waverly, Pa., February 5, 1857. He was educated at Madison Academy, Waverly, Pa., Wyoming Seminary and graduated from the Commercial Department in 1873. He taught in Lowell Commercial College, Binghamton, N. Y., from 1873 to 1875, and in the latter year, became teacher of penmanship and bookkeeping at Wyoming Seminary. He was made principal of the Commercial Department in 1882, which position he still holds. June 20, 1878, he married Mary Goodwin, daughter of Philip Goodwin, and they have one daughter, Mrs. George W. Carey.

CHAPTER XX.

1788—1929

CHURCHES

ANNING OWEN ORGANIZES THE FIRST METHODIST CLASS IN 1788—METHODIST CHURCHES—KINGSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ORGANIZED AT HOME OF DANIEL HOYT IN 1819—OTHER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES—CHRISTIAN CHURCHES—ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES—GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH—BAPTIST CHURCHES—OTHER DENOMINATIONS—CEMETERIES.

The Kingston Methodist Episcopal Church is the mother church of the Wyoming Conference. In 1788, Anning Owen organized the first class, the beginnings of Methodism in Northeastern Pennsylvania, and Central and Western New York. Owen was a blacksmith and had his shop on the westerly side of Wyoming Avenue, a little above Union Street. He fought in the Battle of Wyoming and had a miraculous escape. As he lay in the water, beneath a protecting grape vine, where he had secreted himself, hardly daring to breathe, so close was a band of savages, searching the river side for him, he silently vowed that he would consecrate his life to God. In his deliverance, he saw the marvelous design of the Creator, and it so gravely impressed his mind, that he became possessed of unceasing enthusiasm for the Master's work. He early gathered about him in his humble home, his neighbors for meetings of prayer, and the earnestness of his exhortations produced a profound effect. His temperament ideally fitted him, for the work of an itinerant preacher, and the moral earnestness of his soul was given vivid effect by his dark piercing eye, and the singular expression of his swarthy features. The terrible tragedy and the mental horror at the time of his conversion, had strongly imbued his spirit with unbounded zeal, which his tremendous physical and natural mental powers, imparted to the simple people, among whom he labored.

Owen was a man of little learning, but of great natural parts, and a shrewd organizer and manager of men. He was the unlettered crusader of Methodism on the western frontier. From 1795 to 1813, he travelled many circuits, most of them in the wilderness, and the lands where he labored, and built up the Methodist church, extended from the Hudson to the Genesee and from Lake Ontario to Chesapeake Bay. He lived in his humble home on the Avenue, until 1810, when he removed to Ulysses, Cayuga County, N. Y., where he died in April 1814, worn out by his stupendous labors, in the sixty-third year of his age.

The class which he organized in 1788, and which grew into the Kingston Methodist Episcopal Church, and finally the Wyoming Conference, was the first class organized, within the territory embraced in the limits of the old Genesee Conference formed in 1810, which extended from Northumberland, through Central and Western New York, to and including Upper Canada. It was composed of: Anning Owen and his wife, Mr. Gray and his wife, Abram Adams, Stephen Baker, and wife, Mrs. Wooley, Nancy Wooley, Samuel Carver and his father, Mrs. Ruth Pierce, Alice Pierce, Hannah Pierce, Joseph Brown, Captain Ebenezer Parrish and wife, Deborah Sutton (Bedford), Darius Williams and wife. This little band of Methodists usually met at the house of Captain Ebenezer Parrish, which was on the road to Plymouth, (near the present Edwardsville school house), and thus was known as the Ross Hill Class.

In 1789 and 1790, Kingston and Wyoming Valley, seems to have had some connection with the Newburgh Circuit, and in the former year Rev. Nathaniel B. Mills of that circuit held services here, and in 1790 services were held by Rev. Joseph Lowell of the same circuit.

In 1791, Wyoming Circuit was formed and James Campbell was placed in charge. It embraced all of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and there were about a hundred members, one half of whom belonged to the Ross Hill Class. The following preachers served this circuit and were pastors of the Kingston Society:

1791 James Campbell; 1792 William Hardesty; 1793 William Colbert and Anthony Turk; 1794 James Paynter; 1795 Alward White and Joseph Jewell; 1796 William Colbert; 1797 Roger Benton; 1798 William Colbert; 1799 James Moore and Benjamin Bidlack and David Stevens; 1800 Ephraim Chambers, Edward Larkins and Asa Smith; 1801 Ephraim Chambers and Anning Owen; 1802 Ephraim Chambers and William Brandon; 1803 James Polemus and Hugh McCurdy; 1804 Morris Howe and Robert Burch; 1805 James Paynter and Joseph Carson; 1806 Christopher Frye and Alfred

Griffith; 1807 Gideon Draper and William Butler; 1808 James Reiley and Henry Montooth; 1809 George Lane and Abraham Dawson; 1810 Thomas Wright and Elijah Metcalf; 1811 Noah Bigelow and William Brown; 1812 John Kimberlin and Elisha Bibbins; 1813 Marmaduke Pearce; 1814 Benjamin G. Paddock and Benjamin Bidlack; 1815 George W. Densmore; 1816 Elias Bowers; 1817 Elias Bowers; 1818 George Peck; 1819 Marmaduke Pearce and George Peck; 1820 Elisha Bibbins; 1821 Elisha Bibbins and John Sayre; 1822 John Gilbert and William W. Rundell; 1823 George Lane and Gaylord Judd; 1824 Morgan Sherman and Joseph Castle; 1825 John Coperland and Philo Barbary; 1826 George Peck; 1828 Joseph Castle and Silas Comfort; 1829 Morgan Sherman and Benjamin Ellis; 1830 V. M. Coryell and B. Ellis; 1831 C. W. Harris; 1832 Charles Nash and C. W. Giddings; 1833 H. F. Rowe and L. Lyman; 1834 H. F. Rowe and A. J. Crandall; 1835 Charles W. Giddings and A. J. Crandall; 1836 F. H. Stanton and King Elwell; 1837 F. H. Stanton and William Worley; 1838 William Round and Philo Blackman; 1839 William Round and Lyman Mumford; 1840-41 John B. Benham; 1842-43 L. S. Bennett and William Reddy; 1844 George H. Blakslee and L. S. Bennett; 1845 P. G. White and L. S. Bennett; 1846 P. S. Worden; 1847 Thomas Pearne; 1848 E. P. Williams; 1849 H. R. Clarke; 1850 A. Bronson; 1851 C M. Harvey; 1852 T. Dwight Walker; 1853 T. D. Walker; 1854 C. W. Giddings.

Kingston was on Wyoming Circuit until 1855; but the territory of the circuit was continually diminished by the formation of other circuits, and from 1840 to 1855, it included the following preaching places: Kingston, Plymouth, Nanticoke Dam, Blindtown, New Troy (a separate charge from 1848), Mill Hollow, and Forty Fort. In 1856, the charge took the name of Kingston and included Wyoming until 1864 when it was divided.

Untill 1800, services in Kingston Township were usually held at the houses of Anning Owen and Philip Jackson (near the monument), at Rosencrantz's on the bluff above the present Wyoming depot, at Stephen Baker's (the Church place), and Benjamin Carpenter's. Over the mountain, services were held at the homes of Gilbert Carpenter and Charles Harris. Until about 1840, the place of meeting in the lower part of the township was a small building erected for the purpose, called the Class Room and located upon what is now Main Street in Kingston Borough, upon the site of the present school building.

In 1841 the first church edifice was erected near the site of the present one at a cost of $2300, and without debt, upon a lot of land purchased from Thomas Myers for $300. It was 50 feet by 36 feet in size; and the building committee was Madison F. Myers, Thomas Pringle and William Hancock. The stewards in 1840 were William Hancock, Thomas Pringle, Madison F. Myers, George W. Peck, Samuel Wadhams, George M. Peck, Bester Payne, Horace Hoag, and Henry Boughtin.

In 1848, the society was incorporated and the incorporators were Henry W. Boughtin, Thomas Pringle, Bester Payne, William Hancock and Madison F. Myers. In 1864-65, Rev. Byron D. Sturdevant was pastor and during his incumbency the church was enlarged by the addition of twenty-seven feet.

On February 10, 1872, the church was destroyed by fire. It caught in the oil room and burned for about an hour. Services were held in the Seminary chapel, but during the same year, the present building with a seating capacity of eight hundred was erected at a cost of $58,000. The building committee was composed of: A. J. Pringle, Abram Nesbitt and Dr. Nelson. It was dedicated May 20, 1874 by Rev. W. P. Abbott and Rev. B. I. Ives. In 1897-98 the interior of the church was extensively improved and at that time the building committee was composed of: Abram Nesbitt, P. M. Carhart, W. P. Billings, and Rev. L. C. Murdock. The new Sunday School room was built during 1913-14 at a cost of $38,000 and was dedicated by Bishop Hamilton in October, 1914. The parsonage was erected in 1871 at a cost of $6,000.

The following have been the pastors since Kingston was a separate charge: 1855 S. S. Kennedy; 1856 W. W. Welch; 1857 J. J. Pearce; 1858 C. Perkins; 1859 Asa Brooks; 1860-61 William J. Judd; 1862-63 L. Carle; 1864-65-66 Byron D. Sturdevant; 1867-68-69 Ira T. Walker; 1870-71-72 George R. Haire, 1873 H. V. Talbot, 1874-75 Philip H. Krohm, 1876-77-78 Henry Wheeler; 1879-80 O. W. Scott; 1881-82 J. O. Woodruff; 1882-83 R. W. Van Schoick; 1884-85 Austin Griffin; 1887-92 J. G. Eckman, 1892-97 H. C. McDermort, 1897-03 L. C. Murdock; 1904-11 J. W. Nicholson; 1911-15 C. M. Olmstead; 1916-20 George M. Bell; 1921-24 Frank D. Hartsock; 1925-29 Frank W. Young.

THE NEW TROY OR WYOMING CHURCH

Wyoming or New Troy was a part of Wyoming Circuit until 1848 when it became a charge. In 1842, the Christian Church property on the Avenue, which had been sold by the sheriff, was deeded to the Methodists. The Trustees were Ezra Breese, John Goodwin, Philo Bowers, George M. Peck, and John Jenkins. In 1847 a great revival was held by Rev. T. H. Pearne, and as a result a large number joined the church, including William Swetland and Payne Pettebone. The same year a Sunday School room was placed in the basement, and the following year a parsonage was built. In 1860, the society was united with Kingston, and thus continued until 1864 when it became Wyoming charge.

In 1881, the church property was sold to William Hancock, and is still standing, having been remodelled into a theatre. In 1882 the present parsonage was built at a cost of $8,922.26, and on Wedneaday, July 18, 1883, the present church was dedicated by Rev. T. H. Pearne, D. D. and Rev. L. C. Muller. This fine church building originally costing $24,449 was given by Payne Pettebone and family. Mrs. Henry Van Scoy of Kingston and Mrs. Henry Brownscombe of Wilkes-Barre gave the bell, costing $593 in memory of their parents Isaac C. and Katherine Ann Shoemaker.

The pastors have been: 1848 B. Hawley; 1849 C. W. Giddings; 1850-51 B. W. Gorham; 1852-53 L. D. Tryon; 1854-55 G. M. Peck; 1856 A. H. Schoonmaker; 1857-58 Henry Brownscombe; 1859 Asa Brooks; 1860 Asa Brooks and W. J. Judd; 1862-63 L. Cole; 1864 John LaBar; 1866 H. Wheeler; 1867-69 A. J. VanCleft; 1870-71 S. W. Weiss; 1872-73 R. W. Van Schoick; 1874-76 J. C. Leacock; 1877-79 F. L. Hiller; 1830-82 J. C. Shelland; 1883-85 Y. C. Smith; 1886-89 M. D. Fuller; 1890-94 G. C. Lyman; 1895-99 Wilson Trieble; 1900-02 S. Jay; 1903-09 W. T. Blair; 1910-11 C. H. Newing; 1912-15 John Bradshaw; 1916-19 H. M. Kelley; 1920-28 Joshua Brundle; 1929 George C. Summerson.

CARVERTON

Soon after the formation of the Wyoming Circuit, services were held over the mountain at the home of Gilbert Carpenter who later became an earnest local preacher. In 1799, a class of forty members was organized on Harris Hill. Charles Harris, known as "Father Harris" was one of the early and principal members. The church was built in 1854, the land having been deeded to the society by Rufus Carver. The trustees were: Samuel C. Durland, Hiram Harris, Elisha Harris, Jacob Heft, George Frantz, Solomon Frantz, William Frantz, David A. Reeves, and Samuel Jackson. In 1860, Rufus Carver, conveyed the parsonage lot and the house was built the same year for

$900, and rebuilt in 1883. The Society was incorporated November 1, 1866 as the Methodist Episcopal Church of Carverton, with Horatio Mulford, John Hay, David Reeves, Daniel Honeywell, George Frantz, Walter Montayne, and Samuel Jackson as incorporators. The territory was first in the Wyoming Circuit, then in the Northmoreland Circuit, during which time the pastors were: 1841 King Elwell; 1842 J. O. Boswell; 1843 J. O. Boswell and Lewis Brown; 1844 John Mulkey; and J. B Cooper; 1845 John Mulkey and George P. Porter; 1846-47 E. Smith; 1848 J. Young and J. D. Safford; 1849 C. E. Taylor; and F. S. Chubbuck, 1851 A. Bronson and A. H. Schoonmaker and A. F. Morse. In 1852 Lehman Circuit was formed and Carverton was attached to it, becoming a separate charge in 1860. The pastors of the Lehman Circuit to 1860 were: 1852 C. Perkins; 1853 F. Illman and L. Cole; 1854 W. Smith; 1855-56 G. L. Griffing; 1857-58 P. Holbrook; 1859 J. S. Lewis. The pastors of Carverton charge have been; 1860 C. L. Rice; 1861-62 J. W. Munger; 1863 Y. C. Smith; 1864-65 A. J. Van Cleft; 1866-68 John Labar; 1869-71 J. Madison; 1872-74 Isaac Austin; 1875-77 D. Elwell, 1878-80 F. A. King, 1881-82 G. C. Lyman, 1883-84 D. A. Sanford; 1885-87 C. H. Sackett; 1888-89 H. G. Harned; 1890-93 L. C. Murdock; 1894-97 A. Wrigley; 1898-02 Clark Callendar; 1903-04 C. E. Sweet; 1905-07 R. W. Lowrey; 1908-11 Carl Councilman; 1912-14 W. D. Lathrop; 1915-16 I. L. Snyder; 1917-18 E. A. Gillespie; 1919-20 C. B. Stone; 1921 Edgar B. Singer; 1923 Wilson Trieble; 1923-24 George E. Stockwell; 1925-27 Floyd D. Crispell; 1928-29 E. M. Greenfield.

TRUCKSVILLE

Trucksville was one of the preaching places on the Wyoming Circuit in 1818, but for many years services were held either in the school house or in private dwellings. On July 22, 1853 Jacob Rice deeded three-quarters of an acre to Jacob Rice, John P. Rice, William Booth, Asa Rice, Daniel Harris, John Wall, and W. C. Hageman, Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Trucksville and soon after the church was erected and the adjoining grave yard laid out. It has been part of Northmoreland and Lehman Circuits. In 1891, a separate charge known as Trucksville was formed but the name was changed to Shavertown when the parsonage was erected, there, in 1896. Since then a church has been built at Shavertown. The pastors have been 1891 W. Rawlings; 1892-94 Clark Callendar; 1895-96 N. J. Hawley; 1897-98 J. W. Price; 1899-1900 P. Houck; 1901-02 L. T. Van Campen; 1903-07 W. H. Stang; 1908 J. R. Wagner; 1909-14 J. L. Thomas; 1915-16 W. S. Wilcox; 1917-20 G. A. Place; 1924-29 H. F. Henry.

FORTY FORT

In 1871, the Methodists of Forty Fort determined to have a church of their own. Prior to that time it was a part of the Kingston charge, and services were occasionally held in the old Forty Fort Meeting-house by ministers from Kingston or students of the Seminary. The charge was organized in that year and included Luzerne, the pastor living at the latter place. The building committee was composed of: J. C. Tyrell, James Pettebone and Jacob Shuck. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Forty Fort was incorporated November 20, 1872 with Joseph Smith Adam Heisz, John S. Pettebone, A. B. Tyrell, L. A. Barber, and Isaac Tripp as trustees. December 20, 1872, the lot on the avenue was deeded to the corporation by John S. Pettebone and the church costing $3200 was dedicated July 5, 1872 by Rev. Dr. Nelson. In 1886 the lot adjoining was purchased of E. H. Snowden and a parsonage costing $1603 was built in 1887. The same year the church was rebuilt at a cost of $7,926 and dedicated Tuesday, October 18, 1887 by Rev. Dr. William Searle and Rev. Dr. A. H. Tuttle. In 1924, the fine new stone church building was erected at a cost of $208,000, it being one of the finest churches in Wyoming Valley.

The pastors have been: 1871, H. Trethowan, 1872 W. J. Hill; 1873-74 J. Madison; 1875 J. F. Wilbur; 1876 J. Underwood; 1877-79 John LaBar; 1880-82 J. S. Lewis; 1883-85 George Greenfield; 1886-88 F. A. Chapman; 1889-93 W. R. Netherton; 1894-95 L. E. Van Hoesen: 1896 F. A. Chapman; 1896-1900 E. V. Armstrong; 1901-04 B. P. Ripley; 1905-06 H. M. Crydenwise; 1907-11 G. N. Underwood; 1912-18 J. F. Warner; 1919-26 L. A. Kilpatrick, 1927 F. E. Lott, 1928-29 F. D. Cornell.

LUZERNE

Mill Hollow was one of the preaching places on the Wyoming Circuit until its discontinuance in 1855. In 1873, it was a part of Forty Fort charge and became a separate charge in 1883. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Mill Hollow was incorporated February 3, 1874 with S. D. Fisk, James Thomas, Thomas Reese, Joseph Welter, Charles Lapha, Daniel Harris, John Matthews, John Bartholomew, and George H. Rice as trustees. The church site was given and deeded to the society, August 6, 1874 by Mrs. Sarah S. Bennet. The first church cost $4,000 and was dedicated July 5, 1874 by Dr. Nelson and Rev. P. Krohn. It was enlarged at a cost of $4470, and reopened March 16 1884. Services were conducted by Rev. H. A. Buttz, Rev. S. C. Fulton, and Rev. Austin Griffin. In 1896, the church was again rebuilt at a cost of $4000 and reopened January 29, 1897 with services by Rev. Dr. W. H. Pearce and Rev. Dr. J. G. Eckman. The parsonage was purchased in 1896 of Michael Lapha.

The pastors have been: 1883-85 H. B. Johnson; 1886 W. H. Turkington; 1887-88 Jonas Underwood; 1889-93 F. A. King; 1894-95 J. F. Williams; 1896-98 J. R. Wagner; 1889-02 W. A. Wagner; 1903-05 C. B. Henry; 1906-09 F. D. Cornell; 1910-12 L. E. VanHoesen; 1913-15 H. M. Kelly; 1916 John Bradshaw 1917-19 Joshua Brundle; 1920-24 Judson N. Bailey; 1925-29 D. M. Corkwell.

DORRANCETON CHURCH

In 1890 a Sunday School was started with Noah Pettebone as superintendent in the public school house and this was removed to Vaughn's Hall in 1891. Mrs. Van Loon of Kingston offered to give $1000 toward a building, providing she have interest on the money during her life and this was the nucleus of the church, which was built and dedicated, January 6, 1899 by Rev. C. E. Mogg, D. D.

The pastors have been 1898-99 W. I. Andrews; 1900-01 G. S. Connell; 1902-04 S. Jay; 1905-08 A. R. Burke; 1909-11 H. H. Wilbur; 1912-13 G. N. Underwood; 1914-15 D. L. McDonald; 1916-17 Clark Callender; 1918 Joseph R. Pennell; 1919 T. G. Dickinson; 1920 J. R. Walker; 1921-22 S. L. McDonald; 1923-29 C. R. Hickok.

COURTDALE CHURCH

In 1884 Rev. William Keatley organized a class at Pringleville, as Courtdale was then called. George Courtright gave a lot for a church, and Sunday, February 5, 1888, a church costing $2300 was dedicated by Rev. J. G. Eckman and Rev. R. W. Van Schoick. The parsonage was erected in 1899.

The pastors have been 1887-88 R. W. Lowry; 1889-90 William Smith; 1891-92 E. G. Heal; 1893 William Keatley; 1894 E. G. Heal; 1895-97 R. H. Reidt; 1898 A. H. Whitaker; 1904-07 H. M. Kelly, 1908-09 C. E. Sweet, 1910 J. R. Wagner 1911 E. L. Santee, 1912-16 J. E. Bone, 1917-18 W. H. Caldwell, 1919-23 Harry S. Henry, 1924-29 R. C. Havens.

KINGSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The history of the Presbyterian church of Kingston as a distinct organization, begins March 21, 1819, when a council of ministers, consisting of Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury, Rev. Oliver Hill, and Rev. M. Miner York, met at the house of Daniel Hoyt, which stood at the corner of the present Hoyt Street and Wyoming Avenue, and organized a church according to the customs of the Congregationalists. There were twenty four members, of whom twenty presented letters from the Church of Christ of Kingston and Wilkes-Barre, and four were received on the confession of faith. They were: Daniel Hoyt, Nehemiah Ide, Henry Buckingham, Asa C. Whitney, Elijah Loveland, William Ticknor, Abel Hoyt, Abigail Orcutt, Sybil Wheeler, Harriet Buckingham, Silas H. Orcutt, John Huff, John Gore, Sylvania Hoyt, Rue Hoyt, Nancy Dorrance, Clarissa Brown, Betsey Ide, Salome Ticknor, Mary R. Hoyt, Ebenezer Brown, Hannah Hughes, Lucy Smith, and Barthena Gordon.

Daniel Hoyt and William Ticknor were elected deacons; and Daniel Hoyt, moderator, and Henry Buckingham, clerk. It was from the first, called the Presbyterian Church of Kingston, but not until 1823, did it really become Presbyterian, when John Gore, Henry Hice, George Albright, and Elijah Loveland were ordained as ruling elders.

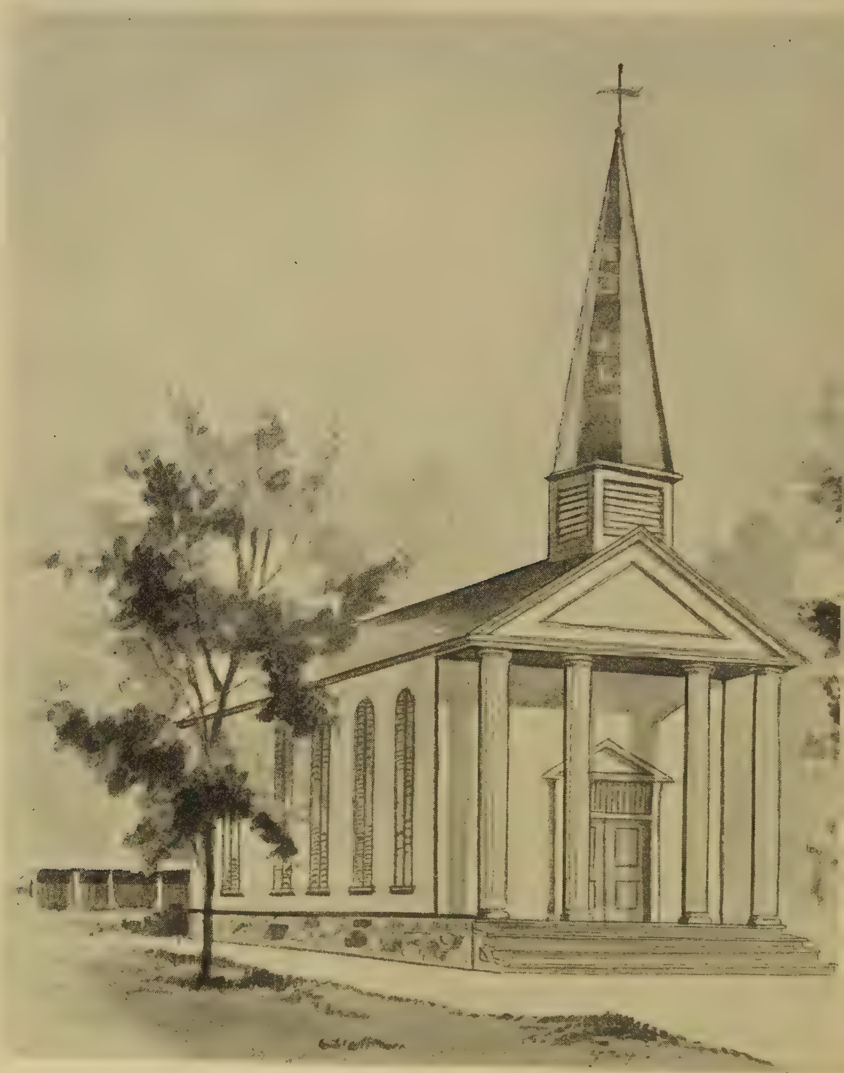
In the early days, members of the church resided all over the township, and even came from Exeter, Bowman's Creek and Lehman. Early meetings of the congregation were held at the homes of Daniel Hoyt, and Mrs. William C. Reynolds, but the services were usually held in the old Academy until 1842 when a church edifice was erected.

The first ministers have all been mentioned under the section devoted to the old Forty Fort Meeting-house. The first minister who served the Kingston church, alone, was the Rev. Charles Chapin Corss, who was here from 1834 to 1837. He was born at Greenfield Massachusetts, May 22, 1803, and died at East Smithfield, Bradford County, Pennsylvauia, May 20, 1896 Mr. Corss graduated from Amherst College in 1832. He was married September 1, 1836 to Ann daughter of Ziba Hoyt, born May 20, 1817, died August 7, 1851. Most of his life was spent in East Smithfield and some one said of him, "that no one lived or ever will live hereafter in Smithfield who will exert such an influence upon human character and human thought as he did."

He was succeeded by Rev. Ebenezer Hazard Snowden, who was pastor from 1837 to 1845. During his pastorate the congregation outgrew the old Academy, and in 1841, the erection of a church was begun on Wyoming Avenue, just south of the present residence of the late W. G. Payne. This building, which was erected at a cost of $2500, and seated three hundred people was dedicated November 13, 1842. Rev. Dr. Nicholas Murray preached the sermon.

Ebenezer Hazard Snowden was born June 27, 1799 in Princeton, N. J., the son of Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden. He graduated at Hamilton College in 1818, was admitted to the bar at Utica, N. Y. and practiced law at Nashville, Tenn. He abandoned law for the ministry and studied at Princeton Theological Seminary. In 1826, he became pastor of the church at St. Augustine, Florida and in 1837 he accepted the call of the Kingston church. From 1849 to 1852, he was pastor of the church at Wareham, Pa. He however, returned to Kingston and preached at Plymouth, Nanticoke and Larksville. He lived on Wyoming Avenue in Forty Fort at what he called Snowden cottage, and there he died at an advanced age.

Rev. J. Delville Mitchell, followed Mr. Snowden and was installed November 24, 1845, and remained until 1847, when failing health compelled him to relinquish the pastorate. During his term Theodore L. Cuyler, then a licentiate of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, afterwards the famous Dr. Cuyler assisted Mr. Mitchell. The Rev. J. Jermain Porter was installed in 1847 and served until 1851.



Old Presbyterian Church, Wyoming Avenue, Kingston, Dedicated in 1842

Rev. Henry Hunter Welles was ordained by the Presbytery of Luzerne and installed as pastor of the Kingston church June 12, 1851. There was then a membership of about seventy-five. Henry Hunter Welles, D. D., was born at Wyalusing, Pa., September 15, 1824, the son of Charles F. and Ellen Hollenback Welles. He graduated from Princeton College in 1844 and from Princeton Theological Seminary. Mr. Welles was married to Ellen Susannah Ladd October 12, 1849. In 1871, Mr. Welles resigned. During his pastorate, the lecture room on Wyoming Avenue was built at a cost of about $1000, and in this building the Sunday School and prayer meeting services were held. Mr. Welles died at Forty Fort, September 24, 1902.

Rev. W. P. Gibson was pastor from October 12, 1871, until 1874; and W. R. Frane, a licentiate of the New Brunswick Presbytery supplied the pulpit from May, 1875 to April, 1876.

During the early part of the seventies the movement was begun for the erection of a new church, and finally in 1875, the present brick church building on Market Street was erected on a lot deeded to the congregation by Mrs. John D. Hoyt. This church was dedicated January 20, 1876, the Rev. Dr. J. Jermain Porter, a former pastor, preaching the dedicatory sermon.

Rev. F. W. Flint was elected pastor July 27, 1876; but the full pastoral relation was not consummated, he returning the call to the Session in December 1880. Rev. Dr. Charles T. Dunning succeeded him as stated supply from 1881 to 1884; and Rev. Samuel Colt served from October 1884 to March 1885.

March 12, 1885, Rev. John P. Harsen, was installed as pastor but he served only eighteen months, dying September 25, 1886.

Rev. Ferdinand von Krug succeeded him being installed December 22, 1886, and he faithfully served the church for twenty-two years, the longest pastorate in its history. During this time the growth of the church was large. By 1900, some eighty-five Magyar people had united with the Kingston Presbyterian church, and they felt the need of a separate building of their own. A church edifice was built for them at Westmoor, and was dedicated Thanksgiving Day, 1900. April 8, 1901, the Magyar Presbyterian Church of Westmoor, associated with the Kingston church was organized by the Presbytery.

The lecture room back of the Kingston church became too small for the Sunday School, and it was apparent, that the church must be enlarged. Dr. and Mrs. Frederic Corss, gave the lot adjoining the church, and Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Newell, in memory of their deceased daughter Margaret, erected the splendid building now used by the Sunday School. At the same time the church was remodelled. These improvements were completed in December 1908, at a cost of $44,000. During the pastorate of Mr. von Krug, four hundred and eighty-seven members were received on confession, and two hundred thirty-seven by certificate, making a total of seven hundred twenty-four. At the request of Mr. von Krug, on December 15, 1908, the Presbytery, dissolved the pastoral relation.

Rev. Ferdinand von Krug was born January 26, 1850 in Darmstadt, Germany, and was educated at the Gymnasium in that city, obtaining his degree of Ph. D. at Heidelberg University. He came to this country in 1870 and taught in the Western Reserve University at Cleveland, Ohio. He studied at Auburn Theological Seminary and was pastor at Bloomingburg, Ohio 1875 to 1883; at White Haven, Pa. from 1883 to 1886, when he came to Kingston. Since leaving Kingston, Mr. von Krug has been superintendent of work among the foreign speaking people in the Lackawanna Presbytery, and has resided at Wyoming.

Rev. Selden L. Haynes was installed as pastor, May 27, 1909, and continued in that relationship until October 31, 1919 He was succeeded by Rev. Ebenezer Flack, the present pastor who was installed November 1, 1920. During the intermission Rev. Thomas Archbald of Scranton supplied the pulpit.

The elders of the church have been:

1819 Daniel Hoyt, William Ticknor, and Henry Buckingham; 1823 John Gore, Henry Hice, George Albright and Elijah Loveland; 1828 Horace Parker; 1845, Charles Fuller, Charles D. Shoemaker, Ziba Hoyt; 1853, George W. Loveland, James W. Abbott; 1858, Samuel D. Ladd, Marshall G. Whitney, M. D.; 1863, George Reith; 1867, Frederic Corss, M. D., T. H. B. Lewis; 1872, James Vannan, William Loveland; 1876, James Vannan, John D. Hoyt, William Loveland, T. H. B. Lewis, H. B. Payne, William R. Brink; 1880, M. B. Fowler, William F. Church, Amos Shortz; 1893, James Clyde, Z. T. Keller; 1894, Robert P. Brodhead, James S. Croll; 1897, John Nicol; 1910, E. M. Rosser, David Mackie; 1913, John M. Williams; 1915, William F. Logan, J. A. Seiple; Horace G. Ellis, David R. Roberts, John E. Anderson, Galen C. Stillman, Benjamin C. Price, James B. Harris, J. Herbert Reynolds.

The leaders and superintendents of the Sunday School, have been:

Elijah Loveland 1822 to 1835; William Barker, James W. Abbott, George W. Loveland, 1848 to 1855; Mrs. W. C. Reynolds 1855 to 1858; Samuel C. Ladd 1858 to 1861; H. B. Payne 1861 to 1873; T. H. B. Lewis 1873 to 1878; H. B. Payne 1878 to 1880; W. B. Fowler 1880 to 1882; H. B. Payne 1882 to 1884; Henry W. Dunning 1884 to 1885; Alfred Darte 1885 to 1901; W. A. Moyer 1901 to 1903; Jonathan R. Davis 1903 to 1908; J. Herbert Reynolds 1908 to 1917; R. P. Brodhead 1917; William F. Logan to the present time.

WYOMING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

About 1840 those who were Presbyterians and resided in the upper part of the township, erected a small chapel on ground which is now included in the Wyoming cemetery. This was a part of the Kingston church until 1847. On February 10th of that year, a meeting was held in the chapel and it was decided to make application to the Presbytery of Luzerne for a separate organization, and Thomas F. Atherton, Peter Barber, and Charles Fuller were appointed to present the matter to the Presbytery. The petition contained thirty names, and the Presbytery which met at Berwick in April granted the request.

The church was duly organized May 4, 1847 by Rev. John Dorrance, Rev. T. P. Hunt, Rev. N. G. Parke, and Elder Charles D. Shoemaker appointed by the Presbytery for that purpose. There were thirty members as follows: Henry Hice, Charles Fuller, Peter Barber, Andrew Miller, George Wurtz, R. F. Russell, George W. Barber, Sarah Schooley, Catherine Turner, Rebecca Ensign, R. E. Marvin, Margaret Schooley, Sarah Ann Marvin, Harriet A. Marvin, L. G. Ensign, Almira A. Mitchell, Elizabeth Carpenter, Maria Fuller, Sarah Courtright, Judith M. Oemig, H. L. Marvin, Lucinda Smith, Mary Barber, Cristine Polen, M. Miller, Elizabeth Barber, Harriet Wurtz, S. A. Russell, Edith Hice, Anna M. Hunt.

The following were elected elders: Henry Hice, R. E. Marvin, Charles Fuller and L. G. Ensign. Rev. J. Delville Mitchell, who had been pastor of the Kingston church was the first pastor, and he remained until 1849. He was a graduate of Princeton Seminary in 1845; and during his pastorate at Wyoming was largely instrumental in the establishment of the Presbyterial Institute referred to elsewhere.

He was succeeded by Rev. Paul Eugene Stevenson, who was installed May 19, 1850, and during that year the parsonage was completed and occupied. The pastors since that time have been: Rev. N. S. Prime, April 1854 to September 1854; Rev. Thomas P. Hunt (supply) winter 1854-55; Rev. J. D. Mitchell 1855 to December 1856; Rev. T. P. Hunt (supply) December 1856 to June 1857; Rev. W. L. Moore, July 21, 1857 to February 1858; Rev. F. La Rue King (supply) 1858 to 1859; Rev. Henry Rinker May 1859 to 1861; Rev. H. H. Welles (supply) 1861 to 1863; Rev. Albert Barnes King October 25, 1863 to 1873; Rev. W. Scott Stites October 2, 1873 to April 17, 1877; Rev. N. J. Rubinkam (supply) summer 1877; Rev. George Welles Ely, January 1878 to December 1882; Rev. W. Scott Stites 1882 to 1887; Rev. H. H. Welles (supply) 1887 to July 1888; Rev. John W. Kilburn (supply) July 1888 to April 1890; Rev. William A. Beecher 1890 to November 1894; Rev. W. Scott Stites December 4, 1894 to 1900; Rev. F. H. Watkins April 1901 to 1903; Rev. J. B. Umberger October 1, 1903 to 1909; Rev. F. Von Krug (supply) 1909 to November, 1910; Rev. Leroy L. Daniel, November, 1910 to July 1913; Rev. F. Von Krug (supply) July, 1913 to 1914; Rev. Robert S. McKee, May, 1914 to December, 1920; Rev. Fred G. Bulgin (supply) during absence of Mr. McKee on leave during war; Rev. Stanley Evans, July, 1921 to September 30, 1924.

The elders have been: 1847, Charles Fuller, Henry Hice, R. E. Marvin, L. G. Ensign; 1851 J. C. Grier, H. E. Ruthven; 1867 Edward E. Lawrence; 1862 James P. Atherton; 1870 Thomas Hutchins; 1879 George Hattie; 1882 R. H. Weir; 1886 John J. Goode; 1887 W. A. Wilcox; 1888 William Lancaster; 1890 John Ballamy, W. J. Mackinson; 1894 John J. Goode, H. T. Gregory, M. B. Gay, Samuel Ferguson, Hugh McCutcheon; 1900 Charles Allen, Harry D. Laycock; 1901 I. C. Edwards, James D. Green; 1902 H. H. McKeehan, H. L. Kyte; 1910 Charles E. Fowler, M. J. Courtright; 1918 Stanley Robinson; 1920 A. C. Hazlett, M. D.

STELLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

During the time that Rev. George Wells Ely was pastor of the Wyoming Church, he established a Sunday school in a school house at Maltby, and in 1880 Robert C. Shoemaker became superintendent. This Sunday school grew rapidly in numbers, and it was determined to erect a chapel, which was done at an expense of $800, it being dedicated November 5, 1882. It was named Stella Chapel after Mrs. Judge Shoemaker, who was an early Sunday School worker. On October 15, 1889 fifty-six members of the Wyoming Presbyterian church, living near Maltby requested permission to withdraw and organize a new church at Maltby. This request was granted and the Stella Church was then duly organized. Recently a fine new brick church was erected at the corner of Wyoming Avenue and Owen Street.

The pastors of this church have been: Rev. William F. Gibbons from May 18, 1890 to September 27, 1896; Rev. Maitland Vance Bartlett from October 30, 1896 to July 20, 1899; Rev. J. R. Zeigler from September 9, 1900 to January 28, 1902; Rev. F. von Krug, Rev. J. B. Craven, and Rev. Andrew Scott Fellinger, from January 28, 1902 to April 23, 1905; Rev. W. Scott Stites from April 23, 1905 to December 3, 1916; Rev. J. F. Langton from April 10, 1917 to January 1, 1920; Rev. J. J. Williams and Rev. Andrew Brown supplied the pulpit for a time; Rev. David Blyth from September 20, 1922 to January 1, 1929.

FORTY FORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On September 23, 1895, a petition signed by 53 residents of Forty Fort, was presented to the Presbytery of Lackawanna, meeting in Montrose, asking for the organization of a Presbyterian Church in the borough. The petition was acted upon favorably and a committee was appointed to visit the field. The committee met on the 11th of October, 1895 at 4:00 P. M. After hearing all parties concerned, the committee unanimously agreed to organize a church in accordance with the request of the petitioners. An adjourned meeting was held at 8.00 P. M., at which time a church was organized. Since its organization the church has been self-supporting. Today the membership is over 600.

The erection of the new Sunday School auditorium was started September 26, 1912 and on Easter Sunday, March 23, 1913 the first service was held.

In May 1923 the erection of the new Primary was started and was ready for occupancy in 1924.

The following have been the pastors: Rev. Henry S. Dunning October 1896 to June 1899; Rev. John W. McCombe, November 1899 to May 1901, Rev. George B. Swinnerton, November

1901 to February 1903, Rev. William W. Ketcham, July 1903 to May 1906, Rev. Joseph L. Weisley, October, 1906 to present time.

BENNET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LUZERNE

The Presbyterian Church at Luzerne Borough was organized June 6, 1874, and the first minutes are of a meeting held June 8 and are as follows: "The session of the Presbyterian church met at J. B. Hutchinson's for the first time and was constituted with prayer and reading of the scriptures. There were present Rev. A. C. Smith with David Foster and J. B. Hutchinson as elders. A committee was appointed by Presbytery to organize a church at Mill Hollow should the way be clear. The committee which consisted of Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, Rev. H. H. Welles, Rev. W. P. Gibson with James Vanan as Elder, met on June 6, 1874. H. H. Welles presided over the meeting and W. P. Gibson acted as clerk. A joint letter of the dismissed members of the Kingston Presbyterian Church was presented to the committee, and contained the following names: James B. Hutchinson, Mrs. Ann Hutchinson, Miss Ella R. Hutchinson, David Foster, Mrs. Jane Foster, Mrs. Margaret Davis, Mrs. James Hewison, Arthur Clark, Archibald Wallace, Mrs. Agnes Wallace, John Clark and Ann McCulloch appeared before the above named committee and were examined as to their religious experiences, when having made a satisfactory profession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ were admitted to the fellowship of the church. The following persons were admitted by letter: Alexander W. Sloan, Mary Sloan, Mrs. S. Booth.

James B. Hutchinson Secy"

On March 3, 1876, the name was changed from the Mill Hollow Church to Bennet Presbyterian Church, because Mrs. Sarah Sly Bennet had by this time given the land on which the first church building was erected. The church was dedicated September 24, 1876, and later Miss Martha Bennet lifted the mortgage on the parsonage. Rev. Alexander C. Smith was the first pastor and served until 1884 and was succeeded by Rev. J. Merriam who was stated supply from November, 1884 to April, 1886. Rev. W. S. Stites supplied in 1887, and Rev. R. H. Craig served from April 1888 until April 1892. Rev. J. P. Green was in charge from 1893 until May 20, 1894. Rev.

J. C. Morgan served during the summer of 1896. Rev. William J. Day began his pastorate February 9, 1897 and served until his death May 20, 1921. During his pastorate the second church was dedicated in October 1903. Rev. Samuel E. Davies assumed charge September 1921. The elders have been:

James B. Hutchinson, David Foster, Archibald Wallace, William Bryden, Alonzo C. Houser, Alexander Sloan, David Tennant, John Breckenridge, William Hemmelright, J. L. Briggs, John McKay, Edward Mould, Edwin W. Abbott, Maurice Kresge, C. Houghtaling, William J. Parry, James C. Wallace, Lewis Thurston, Judson Atherholt, Oscar Kostenbauder, Charles Hitchings, Sr.

The church was remodelled and rededicated April 2, 1924.

"OLD HICKORY CHURCH"

The first church of the Christian denomination to be located in Kingston Township, was erected over the mountain, at the four corners formed by the intersection of the road leading from Trucksvillle to Saxe's store, with the roads leading to Harris Hill and Bunker Hill. This church was built long before the Civil War, upon land donated by Jacob Atherholt, and its erection was due more to political differences in the community, than to any religious divergence of opinion. The leaders in building the church were: John Anderson, Christian Atherholt, Isaac Schooley and Jacob Atherholt. It was a small structure never painted, and occasional services were held in it by Christian ministers from the Plymouth and Huntsville churches. This church was erected during the time when the country divided on the question of slavery, and it seems that those who attended this church were Democrats and strong supporters of Andrew Jackson, while those who attended the Methodist meetings on Harris Hill were Whigs and followers of Henry Clay. Therefore this church was called "Old Hickory Church," the nickname of Andrew Jackson, being "Old Hickory." Services were discontinued about 1870 and it was turned into a dwelling. The building was torn down, when the new county road was recently built.

WESTMOOR CHURCH OF CHRIST

The construction of the original church of this denomination was commenced in the fall of 1898, and April 30, 1899, the church was dedicated with Rev. A. R. Miller and Rev. C. M. Harvey in charge. In June 1899, Rev. C. A. Frick now of

Williamsport, Indiana, began his ministry at Westmoor Church and remained until June 30, 1911 when he resigned. In October 1911, Rev. C. N. Dewey of Meadville, Pa. was elected to succeed him, and he was pastor until November 1915. Rev. H. W. Lay then became pastor and he served the congregation faithfully until July 19, 1919. Rev. George Woodman of Scranton was the next minister, beginning his work April 18, 1920, and continuing until September 2, 1924, when he resigned. January 18, 1925 Rev. Harry McGowan received an unanimous call as pastor, and he was installed February 10, 1925, continuing until October 15, 1929, when his resignation was accepted. During his pastorate, the present fine edifice was erected. Its size is forty-five by eighty-eight feet, and is two stories and basement in height. The foundation is concerte, and the upper stories are of red tapestry brick, with steel skeleton construction and green asbestos roof. The architect was Horace G. Cook, Jr. and the cost of the building was $66,000.

The charter members of this church were: E. T. Moyer' Mrs. E. T. Moyer, Mrs. William Shaw, Mrs. L. M. Eipper' Mrs. William Stevens, Mrs. Joseph Totten, F. B. Edwards' Mrs. F. B. Edwards, F. A. Edwards, Mrs. F. A. Edwards' Mrs. C. L. Nagle, Mrs. Anna Reese, L. S. Reese, B. F. McHenry' Mrs. D. L. Jones, Mrs. B. S. Wandel, C. A. Frick, Mrs. T. D· Park, and Eva E. Dintinger.

WYOMING AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, KINGSTON

This church is of recent organization, but has a valuable property on Wyoming Avenue, and the congregation is growing. Rev. C. A. Frick is the pastor, and the membership is largely made up of people residing in the upper part of Kingston and Forty Fort.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

The first Catholic people residing on the west side of the river were affiliated with St. Mary's Church at Wilkes-Barre. The construction of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad in 1856 and the subsequent opening of the East Boston mines (Payne's), attracted a considerable number of Irish Catholic families, who mostly built homes, for themselves, on the hill back of Kingston Borough and now known as Pringle. But prior to the advent of these, there were, however, a few Catholic people living in and about Kingston Village.

Probably the first Catholic layman, to settle within what is now St. Ignatius' parish was Michael Clinton, Sr., who was born in Dublin, Ireland March 17, 1817. He came to this country in 1837, first living in Wilkes-Barre, and a few years later purchasing a farm on the Kingston Mountain, where he resided a goodly portion of his life. Later he owned a home on Page Street, a little above its intersection with Main Street, where he resided during the sixties. He then returned to his farm, which he occupied until shortly before his death in 1905. Mr. Clinton's first wife was Catherine Gillen and their children were Margaret who married Michael Kenney, and Mary who died unmarried. His second wife was Bridget Dooley and their children were: Michael F., Elizabeth, who married Martin Welsh; Rose who died unmarried; and James. Before the Civil War, Catholic services may have been held occasionally in Mr. Clinton's home.

Other Irish Catholics residing in this vicinity in the early fifties were: Timothy Russell, father of the late Michael C. Russell; Thomas Keating, William Keating, Michael Murphy, James Moore, John Rock, Edward Sheerin and John Dorris. They came, before mining was developed to any extent, and were first engaged in farming.

St. Ignatius' parish may be said to have had its beginning in 1883, when the first services were held in the old school house, which stood in Edwardsville, at the intersection of Main and Church Streets, where the play ground is now located. In 1885, St. Ignatius' parish was created, to include the territory consisting of Kingston, Edwardsville, Larksville, Luzerne, and that part of Kingston township, below the Wyoming Borough line.

The first pastor was Rev. John J. Bergan, who was born at Dushore, Pa. in 1850. He was educated at St. Vincent's College, St. Bonaventure's College and St. Charles' Seminary; and he was ordained by Bishop O'Hara in 1873. He died in Kingston, January 6, 1891.

The property at the corner of Maple and Pringle Streets, Kingston Borough was purchased and the first services were held in a wooden building about fifty feet by thirty feet in size, which stood on Pringle street back of the present edifice. The basement of the present church was built before Father Bergan died, and the rectory now Bergan Hall was practically completed during his lifetime.

Father Bergan's successor was Rev. John P. O'Malley. During his pastorate, the present fine church was erected, and the ground on Pringle Hill purchased and laid out for a parish cemetery. While the church was being constructed, a serious catastrophe occurred. The side and back walls had been erected, the front being left open for the large doors, and the roof boards on, when a terrible wind storm blew the structure to the ground and the falling walls demolished the wooden church in the rear. This loss was a terrible blow to the congregation, but with great perseverance, they succeeded in rebuilding the church without much delay. For some time before the completion of the interior of the church, services were held in the basement.

Rev. John P. O'Malley was born in Quena, near Louisburg, County Mayo, Ireland, June 24, 1833, and was educated at the Jesuit College of St. Francis Xavier, New York, and the Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. He was ordained November 7, 1865, and for a time was assistant at St. James' church in Philadelphia. Father O'Malley was pastor at Athens, Pa. in 1868; and at Hawley, Pa. from 1870 to 1891, when he became pastor of St. Ignatius' church, where he remained until 1901, when he was transferred to St. John's church at Pittston, where he died. Father O'Malley's assistants were: Rev. J. J. O'Malley, Rev. J. F. Holmes, Rev. P. F. McHale, and Rev. C. M. Manley.

Rev. M. E. Lynott was appointed pastor as successor of Father O'Malley, taking charge November 15, 1901. During his pastorate many improvements have been made. The old rectory was moved to a lot adjoining and converted into a parish house, known as Bergan Hall, and provided with a bowling alley, gymnasium, billiard, card, reading, and dining rooms, and a large hall where entertainments are held. This work cost about $15,000. A fine new rectory was built in 1916. This building is of stucco three stories high and of Spanish mission design. It was erected at a cost of about $20,000. A central heating plant was also erected, and the total cost of these three improvements was about $42,000. Later a lot of land 222 feet by 180 feet in size and located on Maple Street, opposite the church was purchased as a site for the erection of a school.

Father Lynott's assistants have been: Rev. C. J. Manley, Rev. S. H. O'Boyle, Rev. M. P. Boland, Rev. J. E. McHale, Rev. William F. Lavin, Rev. Hugh J. Ruddy, Rev. James B. Mulholland, Rev. Thomas S. Ahearn, Rev. Thomas Leonard, Rev. Francis Siddons, Rev. Charles A. Eck, Rev. B. J. Leonard, Rev. Leo Gilroy, Rev. Maurice A. Hughes, Rev. Michael F. Vetter, Rev. Thomas O. Borr, Rev. Edmund J. Langan, Rev. James W. Loftus, Rev. Martin J. Maher.

Rev. Michael E. Lynott was born in Scranton, Pa., and was educated at St. Bonaventure's College, Alleghany, N. Y., St. Bonaventure's Seminary, St. Vincent's Seminary, and graduated from the Grand Seminary of Montreal. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop O'Hara, September 29, 1875. Father Lynott was first an assistant at St. John's church, Pittston and then at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton. In 1882, he became pastor of St. Peter's Church, Wellesboro, Pa., and in 1889 of St. Mary's Church, Jermyn, and during his pastorate, there he built both the church and the rectory. From there he was transferred to St. Ignatius' Church, Kingston. Father Lynott has during his pastorate at Kingston been instrumental in building new churches at Swoyersville, Harvey's Lake, and Shavertown. Recently he was created a Monsignor by the Pope.

HOLY NAME CHURCH

A large number of the English speaking Catholics, belonging to St. Ignatius' parish resided in the Borough of Swoyersville, and Father O'Malley held services in the Shoemaker Street school house. During his time a lot was purchased. In 1903 Rev. M. E. Lynott began the erection of the first church, Bishop Hoban laying the cornerstone on Thanksgiving Day of that year, and Rev. John P. O'Malley preaching the sermon. It was built as a mission by the people of St. Ignatius' parish and Father Lynott celebrated the first mass in the new church in April, 1905. A separate parish taken from St. Ignatius was created, and Rev. P. C. Hurst was the first pastor. He resided at St. Ignatius' rectory from May 1905 to February 1906. During this time the church was destroyed by fire but was rebuilt and was rededicated September 26, 1909. A fine rectory has also been built. Rev. P. J. McHale succeeded Father Hurst as pastor.

SACRED HEART PARISH, LUZERNE

Quite a large number of German Catholics settled in and about Luzerne Borough, many years ago. These people were compelled to go to St. Nicholas church, Wilkes-Barre and as the means of conveyance were not so convenient then as now, it was determined to build a church at Luzerne. A church and rectory were erected on Charles street, and there is now a numerous congregation. The first pastor was Rev. J. F. Steinkirchner and the present pastor is Rev. George T. Forve.

ST. HEDWIG'S CONGREGATION

St. Hedwig's Polish Roman Catholic Church of Kingston was organized October 17, 1901. Rev. A. Lipinski was the first pastor, and almost a square block of land was purchased for the erection of a church and other buildings. The first services were held in the Slovak Church on Grove Street; but upon the completion of the basement of the present church services were held there for a time. The rectory was built and a cemetery was purchased at Larksville. The next priest was Rev. S. Smelsz, but he remained only two years, being succeeded by Rev. J. E. Gryczka, who is the present pastor. During his incumbency, the church has made the greatest progress. The church has been remodelled, the parsonage rebuilt, and a fine parochial school with twelve school rooms erected. St. Hedwigs has a total membership of eight hundred families, with six hundred children attending the school. There are sixteen sisters teaching in the school. There are thirty different societies connected with this congregation; one of these, St. Adalberts, is the largest group of the Polish National Alliance in the United States; and another St. Anthony's is the largest society belonging to the Polish Union of America. The parish celebrated its silver jubilee four years ago and Father Gryczka has been in charge for fourteen years.

ST. MARY'S LITHUANIAN, ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

This congregation was organized in September 1902, and acquired a valuable site for a church on Slocum Street in Kingston. Rev. J. V. Kudirka was the first pastor and remained until 1917. The present pastor is Rev. George V. Inczura. The membership of the church consists of about 400 families, and the property is worth over $100,000. The cemetery is located on Pringle Hill, and there are a number of societies connected with the congregation which have a large membership.

ST. CYRIL AND METHODIUS, SLOVAK, ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF KINGSTON

This congregation was organized shortly before 1900, and its first church was erected on Grove Street. This structure was burned in 1905; and the old Myers homestead on Slocum Street was purchased, the house becoming the rectory; and later a large brick church was erected, the value of the property now being about $150,000. The cemetery is located on Pringle Hill. There are about 175 families in this congregation. The first pastor was Rev. Father Pribula. He was succeeded by Rev. J. F. Jedlicka, who was away for a time, and during this time Rev. Father Porupsky was pastor. After the church burned, Father Jedlicka returned and served until his death. Rev. Edward Bellas succeeded him, and when he was transferred to another church, Rev. Stephen Gurcik, the present incumbent was appointed pastor.

ST. JOHN'S SLOVAK, ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LUZERNE

This congregation, which was organized in 1905. has a very valuable property on Chapel Street. The corner stone of the church was laid in 1907, and besides the church, there are a fine rectory, parochial school and convent now valued at about $300,000. There are seven teachers teaching in the school. The pastors have been: Rev. J. F. Jedlicka, Rev. Frank Schejy, Rev. Leo J. Kroner, and Rev. G. A. Bendick, the present incumbent, during whose pastorate of twelve years, most of the improvements have been made. The cemetery is located at Courtdale.

HOLY TRINITY SLOVAK ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SWOYERSVILLE

This church was organized as a mission in 1895 by a priest from Pittston, Rev. Andrew Pacvo; and the mission was later attended by Rev. Mathew Jankola. The first pastor was Rev. Emory Gottschall. and he was succeeded by Rev. Father Herman. The next priest was Rev. Joseph Matticka, Rev. John A. Karnish has been the pastor since 1918. The church built in 1895, burned down in 1905, and the present fine brick structure was erected in 1916. The rectory and parochial school were built in 1927. There are about 500 families in the congregation and the value of the church property is close to $300,000. The church is located on Hughes Street, and the cemetery is on the same street on the hillside above.

ST. MARY'S POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SWOYERSVILLE

This congregation was organized in 1909, and a church erected in 1910. This was enlarged and completed in 1925. There are about 300 families in the congregation and the value of the property is about $85,000. The cemetery is located at Dickville. The pastors have been: Rev. Valentine Biczysko, Rev. John Kowalczyk, Rev. Charles Duzynski, Rev. Clement Drapsiewski, and Rev. Joseph W. Buda, the present incumbent

ST. MARY'S GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH OF KINGSTON

St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church of Kingston was organized in 1887, and is the oldest congregation of that denomination in the United States. The same year a lot was purchased on Chestnut Street, and a frame church erected. The new brick church north of the old structure was erected in 1911, at a cost of $35,000; and the old church was later torn down and a large brick school building erected on the same site at a cost of $40,000. The interior of the church has been handsomely decorated within the last few years. This Church has now no debt and the congregation consists of about two hundred and fifty families. A night school is maintained for religious instruction. The priests in charge of this parish have been: Rev. Nicholas Zubricky, Rev. John Zapotocky, Rev. Vladimir Molcany, Rev. A. Karminsky, Rev. Nicholas Molcany, Rev. Szabo, Rev. John Perscouta, and Rev. Emil Semetkovsky, the present pastor, who has been in charge for the past nine years, and during whose pastorate the church and property has been greatly improved, and the membership increased.

St. Nicholas Greek Catholic Church, located on Tripp Street, Swoyersville, was started about twenty years ago, and has a small congregation.

There is a Ukranian Greek Catholic Church on Slocum Street, Edwardsville, which was organized about twenty years ago and has a membership of about eighty families.

The Orthodox Russian Greek Catholic Church is located on Slocum Street, Edwardsville.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In 1892, Rev. Henry L. Jones, D. D., rector of St. Stephens Church organized Grace Mission and the first services were held on the porch of the Benjamin Dorrance residence, and later in the Ford Dorrance house. Regular services were held in Vaughn's Hall and in 1904 a building was erected on Butler Street. Two lots were acquired, one by purchase and the other the gift of W. G. Payne and W. A. Lathrop. Later a fifty foot lot in the rear was purchased. The rectory was purchased in 1922. The parish has grown steadily, and the church becoming too small has been torn down and a new English Gothic Church is now being erected at a cost of about $100,000. William J. Trembath, Esq. was one of the first vestrymen ,and bore a principal part in the foundation and the carrying on of this parish, from its beginning. The mission work was first carried on by Rev. James P. Ware, rector of St. Peter's, Plymouth from 1892 to 1897; by Rev. W. DeForest Johnson in 1897; Rev. John Hall Griffith of Plymouth from 1897 to 1909; by Rev. Dr. H. L. Jones 1909 to 1911; and Rev. Ernest L. Wolfe in 1911. Rev. F. W. Sterrett now Bishop of Bethlehem came as first curate in charge in 1912. He was succeeded by Rev. Charles E. Berhgaus who served from 1912 to 1916. The Rev. Ernest Tuthill was the last curate serving from 1916 to 1918. Rev. Dr. Albert E, Whitaker came in 1918, and was the first rector of the parish. He labored earnestly and successfully and his work bore fruitful results. He remained until 1925, when Rev. John F. W. Feild came, and remained until 1928. Rev. R. A. Weatherly became rector in March, 1928.

KINGSTON BAPTIST CHURCH

This church was organized August 5, 1891. Missionary work had been carried on in Dorranceton by Rev. T. E. Richards pastor of the English Baptist Church, Edwardsville. The erection of the building for a mission was begun January 7, 1891. In 1895, Rev. W. B. Grow of Carbondale supplied the church and continued as such until April 1896.

Following Rev. Grow's ministry Rev. H. A. Payne became pastor of the church and continued until March 7, 1897. On March 14, 1897, Rev. O. H. Darby became pastor and served until October 1898. During the years 1899 to 1901, Rev. W. Wilber was pastor. He left July 1, 1901. At this time the Wyoming Baptist Church and the Dorranceton Baptist Church agreed to have one pastor, supply both churches. Rev. Murphy who was then pastor of the Wyoming Church continued to preach at both churches until July 1903. Soon after Rev. Gilbert North was called to the pastorate and continued with the church until 1905 or 1906. Following Mr. North, Thomas Lake, a young man from Plymouth and James D. Bryden of West Pittston acted as supplies, until October 1, 1907, when the church called Mr. Bryden as regular supply. He served in this capacity until September 1, 1911, when the church called Mr. Bryden as regular pastor and arranged for his ordination which took place November 18, 1911. He has continued to serve the church as pastor, and is now in the twenty-third year of continuous service. During this time, the church has multiplied its membership many times, and is now one of the leading churches of the Wyoming Baptist Association. The congregation owns a valuable lot in Hedge Place, where it is intended to erect a modern edifice.

IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, EDWARDSVILLE

The Immanuel Baptist Church of Edwardsville was organized by members of the Welsh Baptist Church who believed in the necessity of having English preaching. The first meeting was held October 18, 1885, at the house of Charles Williams and there were present: Daniel Jenkins, George Jenkins, Henry Harding, Richard L. Evans, John Ellis, Anwyl and Charles Williams. A permanent organization was effected November 5, 1885 at the house of Henry G. Jenkins on Slocum Street by the election of the following officers: Deacons, H. G. Jenkins, W. R. Price, and W. B. Lewis; Treasurer Charles Williams; Clerk D. H. Jenkins. A pastor Rev. B. W. Thomas had been called, and the services were held for a time in Lloyd's Hall. In June 1886, Rev. A. J. Morton of Pomeroy, Ohio, became the pastor. The church building on Slocum Street was dedicated September 26 and 27, 1886. Mr. Morton remained until May, 1888. Since his departure the church has been served by the following pastors: Rev. N. Richards, November 1888 to April 1890; Rev. T. E. Richards from August 1890 to February 1894; Rev. Charles Embrey from April 1896 to May 1900; Rev. T. P. Morgan from March 1901 to June 1902; Rev. John T. Griffith from March 1903 to about 1908. During the pastorate of Mr. Griffith, the church increased from one hundred and eleven members to two hundred and thirty-four, and the church building was enlarged. Rev. D. W. Fletcher was pastor for about two years; and on September 1, 1912, Rev. Edwin Aubrey of Cardiff, Wales, became pastor. He remained until 1923, when he resigned on account of ill health. During his pastorate, the church debt of $6000 was paid, and the church building greatly improved. The church membership was nearly doubled. Rev. Carl Adam Metz became pastor July 1, 1924 and continued as such until July 1, 1930 when he resigned to assume the pastorare of a much larger church at Lebanon, Indiana. During his service the church was improved at a cost of $15,000. David M. Thomas who died in May 1930 was church organist for thirty years, and clerk for nineteen years and also served as a deacon. Three members of this church have become Baptist ministers, viz: Rev. George Middleton, Rev. William Golightly, and Rev. Joseph Vietulis.

WYOMING BAPTIST CHURCH

The Baptist Church of Wyoming was organized December 16, 1893, and was first composed of twenty-three members. The first pastor was Rev. W. H. Mentzer, and the first church clerk was Thomas Noble. The first deacons were Daniel Harris, Thomas Reidy, and Mr. Fenwick. The first church was erected on a lot on Butler Street, the use of which was donated by Denton Durland. In June 1894, it was removed to its present location. In December 1894, Mr. Mentzer resigned. The pulpit was supplied by Rev. R. C. H. Catheral of Berwick and on September 15, 1895, Mr. Mentzer was again called as pastor, but only served three months. Rev. J. S. Thomas of Nanticoke and Rev. Mr. Morris of Duryea supplied the pulpit. Rev. H. A. Payne began his pastorate February 1, 1896, and was succeeded by Rev. R. R. Thompson who served until October 30, 1899. Rev. D. E. Stewart served for a short time. Rev. E. C. Murphy became pastor December 6, 1900 and continued as such until September 1904. During his pastorate the church membership had a considerable growth. The next pastor was Rev. Mr. Brewster and during his pastorate the parsonage lot was purchased. He resigned March 28, 1906. Rev. O. W. Cook served as pastor August 19, 1906, to August 18, 1912. In June 1907, the parsonage was completed. The Association Missionary, Rev. C. M. Jones supplied the pulpit during a part of the summer of 1913 and on July 7th of that year, Rev. L. D. Thomas was elected pastor. During his pastorate the membership greatly increased and the handsome new church building was erected. The present pastor Rev. George Haines took charge October 1, 1929.

THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

The Seventh Day Adventists formed an organization in 1896, and their first services were held in a hall on the Public Square, Wilkes-Barre. Rev. K. Z. Russell and Rev. A. F. Ballinger were the first ministers in charge. For some four or five years, beginning in 1898, services were held in the building on Slocum Street, Forty Fort, known as the "John B. Smith Church;" and later meetings were held in a hall on Market Street, Kingston, near the Corners. For a number of years, before the erection of the present church, they occupied a hall on South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre. In 1921, largely through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. John Curtis, the church on Second Avenue, Kingston was erected at a cost of about $15,000. Mrs. Curtis had been a member of the church since its organization. The members are from all the surrounding towns, this being the central organization. At the time of the erection of the church, a corporation was formed, and the first Board of Trustees was composed of: Mrs. John Curtis, H. G. Lewis, Victor Kline, Charles Booth, and Miss Jessie M. Weiss. Beginning with its organization, the pastors of the church have been: Rev. K. Z. Russell, Rev. A. F. Ballinger, Rev. J. G. Excell, a brother of E. O. Excell, the well known composer, Rev. R. A. Underwood, Rev. S. S. Shrock, Rev. C. S. Baum, Rev. W. Eugene Barr, and Rev. J. G. Holland, the present pastor.

HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The great growth of population in Kingston and Dorranceton, brought many members of the Lutheran church into the community, and as a result they felt the need of a congregation of their own on the west side of the river. In 1921, a church was organized, and the first services were held in the Rutter Avenue High School building. The new church building at the corner of Wyoming Avenue and Church Street was occupied in 1923. The first pastor was Rev. Elwood Schwenk, who served for six years. He was succeeded by Rev. David A. Menges, who is the present pastor. This church was started with sixty-five members and now has a membership of over four hundred. The handsome church building and parsonage cost about $75,000. The first Board of Trustees was composed of George Steinhauer, Walter Banker, William Dilg, A. A. Killian, Martin Roper, John Horlacher, Martin Rau, John Meissner, and Robert D. Raeder.

BETHESDA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
EDWARDSVILLE

In 1886, a number of the members of the Welsh Congregational Church of Edwardsville, who desired English preaching, organized a church which they called, the Bethesda Congregational Church. About one hundred members withdrew from the Welsh Congregational Church and joined by letter the new congregation. The first pastor was Rev. Mr. Lewis; and the first officers were: Joseph Davis, Daniel Lloyd, Robert Hill, and James P. Davies. A lot was purchased on Slocum Street and the present church erected in 1886. The church was remodelled in 1927. The pastors succeeding Mr. Lewis have been: Rev. D. L. Davis, Rev. George Griffith, Rev. Henry Dowding, Rev. H. Norris, Rev. George Jones, Rev. Walter Randalls and Rev. R. J. Rees, the present pastor. The present Board of Trustees is composed of: Edward Miles, William Perry, Richard E. Rosser, John Lohman, William F. Wood, Arthur Cook, and James Thomas.

Many members of the Welsh Congregational Church reside in Kingston and that part of Edwardsville, which was taken from Kingston Township. The pastor of this church for many years was Rev. T. C. Edwards, who was a resident of Kingston Borough during his pastorate, and one of its most prominent men of the Welsh race, and was widely known not only in this country, but also in England and Wales. For a time he taught elocution at Wyoming Seminary. T. C. Edwards, D. D., was born December 6, 1848 at Landore, Swansea, South Wales, and died March 13, 1927. He attended high school at Merthyr Tydvil and graduated from the Presbyterian College, Carmarthen, in 1870. He began his ministerial career at Mineral Ridge, Ohio, January 1, 1871, and removed to Wilkes-Barre in February 1872, to become pastor of the Congregational Church there. On January 1, 1878, he accepted the charge of the Welsh Congregational Church of Edwardsville. With the exception of two years from May 1891 to May 1892, he remained pastor of this church until his death. He was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by the Congregational College of Marietta, Ohio. Dr. Edwards was married in May 1871 to Elizabeth Morgan.

There are two small Jewish Synagogues, one located at the corner of Main Street and Kossack Street in Swoyersville and the other in Luzerne Borough.

CEMETERIES

The first burial place in Kingston Township was at Forty Fort on a part of the public land just north of the old meeting-house. This has been heretofore referred to in the article on Forty Fort Meeting-house. Most of the early burials were made there, although there were a number of family burying grounds scattered about the township.

The old burial plot became crowded, and the need of larger and more improved grounds became evident to the members of the older families who desired to rest beside their ancestors, in a cemetery at Forty Fort. Therefore a meeting was called and held in the old church at Forty Fort, on October 28, 1860. Rev. T. P. Hunt was chairman, and Hon. Steuben Jenkins was the secretary. L. D. Shoemaker Esq. stated the object was the formation of a cemetery association. Rev. T. P. Hunt, William Swetland, and Colonel Hiram Denison were appointed a committee to confer with Nathan Shoemaker about purchasing from him four or five acres of ground, adjoining the old plot. A corporation was formed under the name of Forty Fort Cemetery Association. A. J. Pringle, R. McD. Shoemaker and James Atherton, Trustees of the Proprietors of Kingston deeded on December 14, 1861, the old burial plot, then described as follows: "Beginning at a corner of old Forty Fort Meeting-house, thence in a southerly direction along line of Forty Fort Street, about 500 feet to land of L. D. Shoemaker, thence in an easterly direction along land of said Shoemaker about 300 feet to the Susquehanna River, thence up the river following the course thereof about 500 feet to other land of said Cemetery Association, thence in a westerly direction along other land of said Association to the beginning, containing one acre, being a part of the public land.

Nathan Shoemaker had conveyed to the Forty Fort Cemetery Association previous to this, a little over two acres of land, beginning 4.9 perches northeast of the old grave yard and running along Forty Fort road. Subsequent purchases were made of George Shoemaker, Charles J. Shoemaker, Caroline LaBar, Mary Shoemaker and A. B. Tyrell and others; making the present large burial ground. The Association has ever been in capable hands and the present beautiful cemetery, with its many fine monuments, has been developed.

Probably the next burial ground to be used to any extent was the old Gallup Cemetery, located just west of the Lackawanna Railroad yards in Kingston Borough. This ancient graveyard or a small part in the northwest corner was the family plot of Captain William Gallup, upon whose farm it was, it being set off by him, about 1790. The first interment is said to have been that of Nathaniel Gates, a soldier of the Revolution, and son-in-law of Captain Gallup, who died November 7, 1793. Captain Gallup most of his family, and many of the early and most prominent citizens of the lower part of the township were buried in this graveyard. The growth of Kingston Village after 1800 made a cemetery in the locality necessary, and his daughter Hannah, known as Hannah Skeer* or Jones, who succeeded to his property sold many burial lots. From 1790 to about 1860, many burials were made, and during that time, it was evidently well kept, and many tombstones marked the graves. The building of the railroad yards and shops cut off the access to it by the old lane, later known as Curtis Lane or alley, and made it inadvisable to longer bury there. Many of the bodies were removed, and it fell into a neglected state, and became a mournful sight, a disgrace to the community, which tolerated such disrespect of the dead. Within memory, the part where the Gallups were buried was kept fenced, but the deaths of the remaining members of the family or their removal from the vicinity, led also to its neglect. The foreign children who inhabited that section made of it a playground, and cattle which roamed about it broke down the remaining tombstones, until today the acre or more of ground is a mere waste used as a playground.

THE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OF WYOMING was incorporated May 1, 1865, by the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas. The incorporators were: J. B. Schooley, J. D. Green, Steuben Jenkins, I. C. Shoemaker, Holden Tripp, Thomas Hutchins, and John Breese. The beautiful cemetery on Wyoming Avenue was laid out, and many burials have been made. The first Board of Trustees was composed of: Isaac C. Shoemaker, Jesse B. Schooley, Thomas Hutchins, Steuben Jenkins, and John Breese.

TRUCKSVILLE CEMETERY. Burials were made in a plot of ground around the Methodist Church at Trucksville, and this graveyard becoming crowded, additional land was necessary, and consequently it was determined to organize an association and purchase another lot of land. The Trucksville Cemetery Association, therefore, was organized and incorporated April 24,

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*HANNAH GALLUP was born at Groton, Connecticut, March 4, 1772, the tenth child of Captain William Gallup, and died February 2, 1864. She married first, January 29, 1792, Israel Skeer, born May,1759, died October 14, 1804; and second Asaph Jones, born at Preston, Connecticut, September 11, 1758, died August 31, 1836. She was at Forty Fort during the Battle and when she died, at the advanced age of 92 years, was about the only survivor of that harrowing experience. The children of Israel and Hannah Gallup Skeer were: Albert, born April 17, 1793, died March 5, 1872, married Joanna J. Orr, born November 26, 1796, died January 26, 1833, and their children were: Charles O., born November 23, 1818, died March 13, 1898, married Marion Packer, daughter of Asa Packer, and was a member of the firm of Linderman, Skeer & Co., prominent coal operators; Catherine, born April 20 1823, died June 8, 1824. Albert Skeer married second, Emily Avery, bornMay 6, 1807, died October 3, 1864, and their children were: Emily born September 6, 1837, died February 18, 1889, Albert, born July 10, 1838, died March 7, 1840; Lucy Avery, born April 14, 1840, died November 27, 1879; Sarah Hoyt, born January 18, 1842, died December 15, 1904; John Benham;

1882, with the following as the incorporators, and first Board of Trustees: Levi Howell, Jacob Rice, William L. Rice, William H. Rice, and J. E. Faulkner. Jacob Rice deeded a lot of ground adjoining the old cemetery plot, and this was laid out for burial purposes. Several additions have since been made, and there is now a very well kept cemetery.

CARVERTON CEMETERY. Years ago, the first burials were made in the cemetery at Carverton. This cemetery is well located and is near the Carverton Methodist Church. At first it was unincorporated, and was maintained by the voluntary support of the community, but in 1918, a corporation was formed, which now manages this cemetery. On April 29th of that year, it was incorporated as the Carverton Cemetery Association, with the following incorporators: Emery E. Harris, Isaac C. Edwards, Abram Gray, George B. Pollock, and Nelson W. Burgess.

MT. GREENWOOD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION. A beautiful cemetery was laid out at Mt. Greenwood, and the lots were sold principally to people from the various towns in Wyoming Valley. The grounds are finely laid out, and are well kept. There have been many burials made, and the cemetery contains many beautiful monuments. The Mt. Greenwood Cemetery Association was incorporated, May 11, 1914, and the incorporators were: Edward M. Rosser, Thomas F. Heffernan, Lewis Edwards, Jonathan R. Davis, and William Brewster.

OTHER CEMETERIES. There are two cemeteries located at Shavertown. The Evergreen Cemetery Association, a private corporation has a beautiful cemetery, situated on the upper road. The German Catholics have a very fine cemetery near it. St. Ignatius' Parish, Kingston has a cemetery on Pringle Hill, which is referred to elsewhere. The Denison Cemetery, a new burial ground, is located at Forty Fort, and a Jewish cemetery adjoins it.

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born May 22, 1844, died February 27, 1885; Winfield Scott, born May 6, 1846, died February 24, 1867; unmarried, buried in Kingston, Pa. Mary Ann, born July 8, 1849; died May 4, 1850; Annie Maria, born August 27, 1851, resides at Newtown, Pa. II. Enoch, born April 10, 1798, died February 5, 1829; III. Sarah, born February 17, 1801, died June 8, 1878, married Josiah H. Foster. The children of Asaph and Hannah Gallup Jones were: I. Hannah, born March 23, 1810, married Rev. James Mulkey; II. Sophia, born January 28, 1813, died July 20, 1896, married Charles Ransom Curtis, born April 21, 1819, died May 27, 1846, and their children were: Hannah, born July 6, 1844, died October 14, 1913, married October 7, 1869, James Hayward, born January 13, 1848, and their children were: Sophia Mabel, born March 1, 1872, married Harry Mumford Hoyt; Charles C., born November 5, 1873, died September 30, 1886; Samuel Pringle, born August 29, 1876, died July 5, 1884; Hallet Gallup, born July 6, 1878, died November 4, 1924, a soldier in the Spanish American and World war; II. Lorenzo J. Curtis, born October 20, 1846, died January 24, 1895, member of Company D, 143 Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers and served throughout the Civil war.

CHAPTER XXI.

1776—1929

LAWYERS AND PHYSICIANS

ISAAC BALDWIN, FIRST LAWYER—HON. GEORGE DENISON—HON. HENRY PETTEBONE—GOVERNOR HOYT—HON. W. W. KETCHAM—HON. T. H. B. LEWIS—HON. H. B. PAYNE—HON. ALFRED DARTE—HON. STEUBEN JENKINS—LATER LAWYERS—FIRST PHYSICIAN, DR. WILLIAM HOOKER SMITH—DR. OLIVER BIGELOW—DR. A. C. WHITNEY—DR. ELEAZER PARKER—DR. J. J. WRIGHT—DR. ANDREW BEDFORD—DR. JOHN SMITH—DR. ALFRED BRACE—DR. T. J. HALSEY—DR. R. H. TUBBS—DR. M. G. WHITNEY—DR. J. G. SPERLING—DR. JAMES R. LEWIS—DR. FREDERIC CORSS—LATER PHYSICIANS.

During the Colonial Period, the only lawyer who resided in Kingston Township was Isaac Baldwin, who was sent, the morning of the battle of 1778, to Philadelphia, with a message to the Board of War He never returned here, after the Revolution After the erection of Luzerne County, the few lawyers resided at the county seat.

The first lawyer, who lived in Kingston Township and practiced in the Pennsylvania courts was Hon. George Denison, son of Colonel Denison. He was listed in the tax assessment of 1810, as a scrivener. A sketch of Mr. Denison is contained, in the article on Nathan Denison, in another chapter.

Hon. Henry Pettebone was admitted to the Luzerne bar in 1825 and continued to reside in Kingston Township during most of his life. In another chapter, the life of Judge Pettebone is treated at length, under the article on the Pettebone family.

Hon. Charles Denison, Hon. Lazarus Shoemaker and Charles Bennet, all of whom were natives of Kingston Township, may have resided here for a time after their admissions, but most of their active lives was spent in Wilkes-Barre.

General Henry Martyn Hoyt was born in Kingston, in the little one-story and a half house, still standing on the Avenue, just above the Pettebone switch, on June 8, 1830, the son of

Ziba Hoyt. He was graduated from Williams College, Massachusetts in 1849, and in the autumn of 1850, he went to Wyoming Seminary as professor of mathematics. In April, 1851, he began the study of law with Judge George W. Woodward, and on April 4, 1853, he was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County. At the beginning of the Civil War he was captain of the Wyoming Light Dragoons of Wilkes-Barre.

The Fifty-second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, in August 1861, and on the 14th day of that month, Henry M. Hoyt was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of this regiment.

On January 9, 1864, he was promoted to colonel, and on November 5, 1864, he was honorably discharged from the military service. He then returned to Wilkes-Barre, where he resumed the practice of his profession. He was brevetted brigadier-general of volunteers, March 13, 1865, for meritorious conduct while in service.

In November 1878, General Hoyt was elected governor of Pennsylvania, having been nominated by the Republican party for that office. In 1883 he became a resident of Philadelphia, where he opened a law office. He was general manager and chief attorney for Pennsylvania, of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States. In 1890, he returned to Wilkes-Barre, where he was director of the Wyoming National Bank; and also, he was a director of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, of which he was one of the organizers, in September 1858.

He was a member of the board of trustees of Williams College, and was a Royal Arch Mason. He married at Kingston, September 25, 1855, Mary E. Loveland, born at Kingston, April 20, 1833; died at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., September 30, 1890.

The death of Governor Henry Martyn Hoyt, occurred at his home at Wilkes-Barre, December 1, 1892. His children were: Henry Martyn, born December 5, 1856; Matilda B., born July 12, 1859; George Loveland, born February 20, 1861, died March 24, 1862; John Sidney, born January 28, 1866, died May 7, 1866; Maude Buckingham; and Miss Helen Strong

Henry Martyn Hoyt, Jr., eldest child of Governor Hoyt, was born at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., December 5, 1856. He was graduated from Yale College in 1878, and studied law in the office of Hon. Wayne McVeagh in Philadelphia. In 1881, he received the degree of L. L. B. from the University of Pennsylvania, and in June 1881, he was admitted to the bar of Philadelphia. He practiced law in Pittsburgh for a short time, and in 1883, he accepted a position as assistant cashier in the United States National Bank of New York City. In 1894, he resumed the practice of law in Philadelphia. President McKinley gave him the appointment of assistant attorney general of the United States in 1897, and in 1903 he received the appointment of solicitor general of the United States.

Birth Place of Governor Hoyt, Wyoming Avenue, Kingston

He married January 31, 1883, Anne McMichael, daughter of Morton McMichael, Jr., and grand daughter of the Hon. Morton McMichael, who for many years, was editor and proprietor of the Philadelphia "North American," also mayor of Philadelphia.

Henry Martyn Hoyt, Jr., and his wife had five children, two sons and three daughters.

George Loveland, Esq., continued to live in Kingston for a number of years after his admission, and took a part in the public affairs of the township. Hon. W. W. Ketcham spent most of his early life here, and after his admission to the bar, established his residence on North College Avenue, and owned and lived on the lot, where Dr. Sprague now resides Mr. Ketcham was a credit to Kingston Township. His parents were poor, and as a young man he worked at his fathers trade, that of a painter, and it is said that when he was a mere boy, Isaac C. Shoemaker, in order to help him get an education gave him the job of painting the old grist mill, still standing at West Wyoming. He became one of the most distinguished men of Pennsylvania, and was Judge of the United States Court when he died. A more extended reference to his life is made in the article on the old Academy.

Hon. Thomas H. B. Lewis was the next member of the Luzerne County bar to make his home in Kingston Borough. He was born in Trucksville, the son of Dr. James R. Lewis of that place, February 22, 1835. He was educated at Wyoming Seminary and at Bucknell University from which he graduated in 1858. He studied law with Hon. Charles Denison and was admitted August 22, 1860. He located in Kingston and his home was on College Street, where he resided for many years. He served on the Kingston Borough school board, and on the council and was secretary of each. In 1874, he was elected a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, from the Second District of Luzerne County, as a Democrat, although the district was largely Republican. His wife, whom he married May 17, 1865 was Rosa M. Atherton. Mr. Lewis removed to Wilkes-Barre and died there October 5, 1921.

Hon. Hubbard B. Payne was born in what is now Kingston Borough, July 20, 1839, the son of Bester and Polly Payne. His father, who resided on Main Street, just across the Lackawanna tracks carried on the business of making pumps, and laying lead water pipe. Mr. Payne prepared for college at Wyoming Seminary and in 1857 entered Wesleyan University, from which he graduated in 1861. He read law with Hon. Charles Denison, was admitted to the bar in 1863, and associated himself in the practice of his profession with Hon. W. W. Ketcham. In 1874, he was elected as a Republican to the State Senate, and in 1876, was the Republican nominee for

Congress, but was defeated by Hendrick B. Wright, the candidate of both the Democratic and Greenback parties. In 1880, Mr. Payne received without opposition, the Republican nomination for additional law judge, but was defeated by the Hon. Stanley Woodward. Mr. Payne married February 22, 1865, Elizabeth Lee, daughter of Draper Smith of Plymouth. He resided on North Maple Avenue and died there.

Hon. Alfred Darte was born in Dundaff, Susquehanna County, April 28, 1836, the son of Judge Alfred Darte, of the City Court of Carbondale. Alfred Darte, Jr., was educated at Wyoming Seminary, and studied law with his father, being admitted to the Luzerne County bar, May 12, 1859. He was lieutenant of Company K. 25th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, of which his father was captain, and served in the Civil War from April 26, 1861 to September 19, 1864. Mr. Darte was severely wounded at Trevilian Station, and was mustered out as captain. On July 11, 1863, he married Caroline Sealy, a native of Kingston, and daughter of Robert Sealy; and after the war located in Kingston Borough, where he was a justice of the peace and a member and president of the borough council. In 1879, he was elected district attorney of Luzerne County on the Republican ticket, and was elected again in 1888. In 1891, he was a candidate for the Republican nomination for additional law judge, but was unsuccessful. He was elected Judge of the Orphans Court, in which position he served until his death, which occurred at his home on North Maple Avenue.

John B. Reynolds, was born August 5, 1850, son of Elijah W., and Mary Butler Reynolds, daughter of Peirce Butler. His father Elijah Reynolds was at one time in partnership with his brother William C. Reynolds, in the store business at Kingston Corners, and during that time was postmaster of Kingston. John B. Reynolds was educated at Wyoming Seminary and Lafayette College and read law with W. W. Lathrope, and was admitted to the bar November 15, 1875. Mr. Reynolds organized the North Street Bridge Company and the West Side Railway Company, and was largely instrumental in providing the valley with an efficient street car system. In 1890, Mr. Reynolds was the Democratic nominee for Congress, but was defeated by his Republican opponent, Hon. George W. Shonk. He married

October 21, 1879, Emily Bradley Dain of Peekskill, N. Y., and died at his residence, corner of Wyoming Avenue, and Peirce Street.

Benjamin F. Dorrance was admitted to the bar December 17, 1870 and practiced his profession for many years, but due to failing eyesight, in the latter part of his life he retired, and devoted his attention to his large farm. For a more extended sketch of his life, see under Dorrance family in another chapter.

Of the lawyers who have resided in Kingston Township, in many respects, the Hon. Steuben Jenkins was the most distinguished. He was born on the Wyoming Battle field, September 28, 1819, grandson of Colonel John Jenkins and great grandson of John Jenkins, the first judge of Westmoreland. He was admitted to the Luzerne County Bar, August 3, 1847, and practiced his profession continuously until his death, May 29, 1890. He married February 24, 1846, Catherine M. Breese, born July 27, 1822, died July 18, 1905. Mr. Jenkins' home was on Wyoming Avenue, a little above the Laycock Hotel, in the Borough of Wyoming, in a house still standing. His law office was in a small building adjoining. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1856 and 1857; solicitor of Luzerne County from 1863 to 1870. His children were: Frances R., born March 29, 1847, died January 14, 1848; William H., born October 14, 1849; Emma Jane, born October 5, 1852, Elizabeth Breese, born December 15, 1855, married William Sharps Jacobs, Katherine, born November 29, 1860, died September 3, 1913, married William A. Wilcox, Esq. In his later years, Steuben Jenkins became well known as a historical scholar and antiquarian, and his writings on those subjects have been widely read. His historical address delivered at Wyoming Monument, during the Centennial of 1878 was the literary feature of that celebration; and much of the success of that event was due to the interest in local history which his writings created. His collection of Indian relics was one of the largest and most valuable in existence. It was due to his intelligence and foresight, that many of our ancient documents and records have been preserved. Whatever he did, he did well, and he pursued his investigations with patience, skill and exactness throughout a long life, without any expectation of pecuniary reward. It is perhaps fair to say, that he knew more of the traditional and written history of Northeastern Pennsylvania, than any man who ever lived; and it is to be regretted that he never wrote and published a history of this section, which it is said, he contemplated.

The other early members of the bar, who have resided in Kingston Township were: Robert C. Shoemaker, born April 4, 1836, admitted May 12, 1859; William M. Shoemaker, born June 20, 1840, admitted September 3, 1863; George Shoemaker, born June 28, 1844, admitted January 6, 1865; Andrew Hunlock, born May 1, 1839, admitted November 10, 1868. Mr. Hunlock was a practicing attorney until his death, but resided in Wilkes-Barre, the greater part of his life. The Shoemakers, however, gave but little attention to the legal profession and devoted their time to their business interests.

In the period from 1870 to 1880, a number of lawyers resided in the township. George K. Powell, who resided for many years in the W. W. Ketcham house on College Street in Kingston Borough was born in Penn Yan, N. Y., June 10, 1845, and was admitted to the bar June 12, 1871. He was associated with Hon. H. B. Payne, and became a very prominent and highly respected lawyer. He removed to Wilkes-Barre many years ago and died there.

Abram G. Hoyt, a son of John D. Hoyt, and nephew of Governor Hoyt, was born in Kingston, January 25, 1847, and was admitted to the bar March 2, 1870. For a number of years he held an important government position at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Hoyt was a man of good abilities, and a polished gentleman. His brother Edward E. Hoyt was born January 22, 1859, and was admitted September 17, 1880. He was a member and president of the borough council, and attorney for the school district for many years; and was a successful and well known attorney.

Thomas H. Atherton was born at Wyoming, July 14, 1853. He graduated at Princeton College, and was admitted to the bar September 29, 1876. For some time after his admission, he continued to reside at his home at Wyoming, but removed to Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Atherton was one of the most distinguished and successful lawyers of his time, and was a gentleman of the highest character, Hon. Frank W. Wheaton was born at Binghamton, N. Y., August 27, 1855 and was admitted to the bar September 2, 1879. He was Additional Law Judge of Luzerne County, and has been general counsel of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company for years.

Those who have resided in the old certified township admitted to the Luzerne County bar since 1880:

George H. Butler, born in Kingston, September 2, 1857, admitted June 6, 1881.

Dennis O. Coughlin, born Red Rock, Pa., July 9, 1852, admitted November 20, 1882.

Henry H. Welles, born Kingston, Pa., January 21, 1861, admitted October 10, 1885.

William J. Trembath, born at Ballarat, Australia, December 16, 1859, admitted December 10, 1888.

George F. Nesbitt, born at Kingston, Pa., January 24, 1865, admitted June 16, 1890.

Granville J. Clark, born at Beaumont, Pa., December 31, 1863, admitted January 5, 1891.

Burton W. Davis, born at Stratford, N. Y., November 7, 1867, admitted December 4, 1893.

John E. Jenkins born at Shamokin, Pa., June 17, 1862, admitted September 17, 1894.

Rush Trescott born at Harveyville, Pa., October 5, 1868, admitted June 17, 1895.

Frederick W. Denniston born at Luzerne, Pa., February 10, 1872, admitted October 14, 1895.

Hubbard B. Payne born at Kingston, Pa., July 7, 1870, admitted October 5, 1896.

Henry A. Gordon born at Plymouth, Pa., July 1, 1876, admitted October 25, 1897.

James W. Allen born at Columbia, N. J., June 1, 1871, admitted December 18, 1897.

Willard H. Goodwin born at Kingston, Pa., November 8, 1872, admitted September 6, 1898.

James J. McQuade born at Ashley, Pa., January 28, 1875, admitted January 3, 1899.

Frank G. Darte born at Philadelphia, Pa., April 12, 1873, admitted June 19, 1899.

David B. Gildea, born at Glenties, Ireland, July 10, 1856, admitted June 19, 1899.

Edwin Shortz, Jr., born at White Haven, Pa., January 22, 1876, admitted June 26, 1899.

William Brewster, born at Brooklyn, Pa., June 23, 1877, admitted July 14, 1900.

Philip L. Drum born at Drums, Pa., January 31, 1871, admitted in 1900.

L. A. Dymond, D. M. Hobbes, and L. Floyd Hess, admitted in 1901. Fred B. Davis admitted in 1904. John Shadrack and Willian S. Taylor admitted in 1905. Joseph P. Lord, Stanley L. Kuryloski and Jonah A. Davis admitted in 1906. Ruth E. Jacobs and Samuel W. Rhoads admitted in 1909. Gomer Morgan admitted in 1911. Sophia M. R. O'Hara, Roscoe B. Smith and Arthur Davenport admitted in 1913; F. M. Mackin admitted in 1914. Frank L. Pinola and George H. McDonnell admitted in 1915. James P. Harris admitted in 1919. Donald O. Coughlin admitted in 1921. Leonard D. Morgan admitted in 1923. Al J. Kane, Mitchell Jenkins and William J. Fahey admitted in 1924. Hugh Coban Jenkins and Frank J. Williams admitted in 1925. Frank A. Gamble admitted in 1926; E. C. Marianelli admitted in 1927.

PHYSICIANS

The first physician to reside in Kingston Township was William Hooker Smith, who was born in April 1724. In 1776, he was living in Kingston, at Forty Fort. For a time, he was a surgeon in the Continental Army. He was the most prominent doctor and about the only one here, during the Colonial Period, and was highly regarded. Upon the erection of Luzerne County, he was appointed one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas. In addition to his medical practice, he engaged in the iron business in Lackawanna Township, and built the forge on the Lackawanna, which gave the name to the community now known as Old Forge. Dr. Smith removed to LaGrange, Wyoming County, where he died July 17, 1815, aged 91 years, 3 months. He is buried in the cemetery there and the inscription on his tombstone, reads "He never courted the rich nor oppressed the Poor." His children were: John, who removed to New York State; James; Sarah, born January 18, 1747, died August

20, 1834, married June 3, 1769 to James Sutton, born March 7, 1744, died July 19, 1824; Susannah, born November 18, 1750, died June 12, 1778, married Dr. Lemuel Gustin; Elizabeth, married Stilwell; Mary married John Barker; Willian removed to Windham Township; Nathan, born 1764, died May 26, 1813 at LaGrange; a daughter, born March 22, 1782, died November 2, 1852, married first Isaac Osterhout, second Fisher Gay.

Dr. Lemuel Gustin, was the son-in-law of Dr. William Hooker Smith, having married his daughter Susannah. He lived at Forty Fort at the time of the Battle of Wyoming and was a prominent participant in the negotiations, which led to the surrender, his name being appended as a witness to the Articles of Capitulation. Some time after the surrender, Dr. Gustin, with others, who were the last to leave Forty Fort, built themselves a raft, out of the houses in the village and on it floated down the river to a place of safety. Dr. Gustin then went to Carlisle, where he remained and practiced medicine.

Dr. Oliver Bigelow, was here for a number of years. On July 11, 1792, he purchased from Parshall Terry, lot No. 19 of the Third Division, and his residence was located on the present Rutter Avenue, near the old barn now standing, just north of Church street. Dr. Bigelow was born in Colchester, Connecticut, December 23, 1759. In 1800, he was one of the Kingston Proprietors Committee; and in March 1801, he sold his farm to Oliver Pettebone, and about that time removed to Johnstown, Licking County, Ohio, where he died October 2, 1817.

About the time of the departure of Dr. Bigelow, two physicians located in Kingston Township, and both were here in 1801 and perhaps in 1800. They were Joseph Vansech or Vansick, and Samuel Baldwin, and both continued to practice until after 1809.

In that year, another physician came to Kingston, in the person of Dr. Asa C. Whitney, who was a leader in his profession and one of the most prominent men of Luzerne County.

Dr. Asa Clark Whitney was born in Stockbridge, Mass. May 5, 1785. He was the son of Elisha and Esther Clark Whitney, who lived in Kingston Township for a period and then removed to Wysox, Bradford County. The brothers and sisters of Dr. Whitney were: Rebecca, buried in Forty Fort cemetery; Elizabeth, married Joseph M. Piolett, and was the mother of Victor E. Piolett; Elliott, father of Dr. Marshall G. Whitney; Alvin; Ebenezer; Dr. Elisha; Esther, married Moses Woodburn; and Alanson. Dr. A. C. Whitney, married February 21, 1809, Elizabeth, born 1778, died April 20, 1820, daughter of Colonel George Dorrance, and their children were: Mary Ann, Benjamin Dorrance, Nancy, and Charlotte. He was married second to Susan Inman, and their children were: Elizabeth, who married Captain Angelo Jackson and was the mother of the late Ernest V. Jackson, Esq.; and Jerusha. Dr. Whitney was one of the most prominent of the early doctors of Luzerne County, and was elected Register and Recorder in 1820. He resided on Wyoming Avenue, and his house stood, where the Hoyt Library building is located. His death occurred December 10, 1824.

Dr. Whitney when he began practice here in 1809, may have lived at Forty Fort, but he purchased the property on the avenue in 1817 and as this adjoined the Dr. Parker place, he probably succeeded to his practice. He sold this property shortly before his death.

In October 1809, Dr. Eleazer Parker began "the practice of physic and surgery" in Kingston. He at first boarded with Henry Buckingham. He was a native of Connecticut, a total abstainer, and never prescribed alcohol. In 1811, he was married at Willingboro (now Great Bend) to Hannah Dimon of that place, and soon thereafter, he took up his residence on the Avenue, on the site of the now vacant lot just south of the library. This lot was sold as his property, by the sheriff, January 8, 1816, and by subsequent conveyances was sold to Sarah Bidlack, who with her husband Rev. Benjamin Bidlack, resided there for many years. In September 1815, Dr. Parker opened a new dry goods and grocery store, and this was probably his undoing. After his failure, he evidently moved away, and we hear no more of him until 1829, when he was assessed in Kingston as a physician. The last mention of him was in 1837, when he was again on the assessment rolls. Dr. Parker practiced medicine for sixty years, and was living in Susquehanna County in 1872, in good health at the age of ninety years

In 1816 in the Gleaner, Dr. Charles E. Gaylord "informs the inhabitants of Kingston, that he intends to remove to Kingston and practice as a physician."

About 1821, Dr. Ethel B. Bacon, began to practice medicine at Kingston Village, and he continued until about 1828, when he removed to Osceola, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, where he practiced medicine for many years. He married Anne, a daughter of Daniel Hoyt.

Induced, probably by hopes of securing the practice of Dr. Whitney, Dr. Dudley Atkins and Dr. Virgil M. Diabol, located in the township. The former had his office near Kingston Corners, but about 1828, he sold his practice, and his office and house were taken over by Dr. J. J. Wright. In that year, Christopher H. Baker advertised that he was conducting his book binding business in the office, lately occupied by Dr. Wright. In 1833, Dr. Wrght announced that he had removed to the house one door below H. P. Hopkins' store, (which was the old store building on the site of the present Light Company office). He continued to practice here until after 1833, when he left, having been appointed to the Medical Corps of the United States Army. In 1833, his house, the Dr. Whitney house was transferred on the assessment books to Sharp D. Lewis. Dr. Wright was the son of William Wright, a brother of Thomas Wright, who published the first newspaper in Wilkes-Barre, and erected the mills, now known as Miner's mills. A brother of Dr. Wright, Benjamin Drake Wright, became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida. In 1853, Dr. Wright was stationed at Carlisle.

In 1832, Dr. Samuel Wilson had his office at Helme's tavern, and continued to practice in Kingston, until his death, which occurred prior to May 1, 1834, when his estate was advertised for settlement. On November 25, 1833, Dr. Andrew Bedford, announced in the Wyoming Republican, "that he had located his office nearly opposite Helme's tavern." Dr. Bedford was the son of Jacob Bedford and Deborah Sutton Bedford and was born in Kingston Township, April 22, 1800. He practiced in Kingston until the summer of 1835, when he removed.

Dr. Bedford was evidently succeeded by Dr. David Scott who married Elizabeth Whitney, a sister of Dr. Marshall G. Whitney, and a niece of Dr. A. C. Whitney. Dr. Scott remained here for a number of years and was a prominent practitioner.

Dr. John Smith was the first physician at New Troy. He was the son of Captain Benjamin Smith and grandson of Timothy

Smith, leader of the settlers, in the movement, which led to the erection of the town and county of Westmoreland, and was born November 4, 1787, and died August 24, 1869. He married in 1814, Mehitable, born March 18, 1796, died July 6, 1862, daughter of Thomas Jenkins. He first had his office in 1817 at the house of Captain Samuel Breese, and later erected a residence at the southwest corner of Wyoming Avenue and Seventh Street. In 1836, he was appointed Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts and about 1838 removed to Wilkes-Barre where he died. His children were: Harriet, born September 30, 1815, married George Gore; Amos York, born October 19, 1817, died December 20, 1881; Esther Ann, born May 1, 1822, married Gould Parrish; Thomas Nelson, born July 24, 1826; Mary, born August 28, 1828, married Thomas B. Blake, Francis, born November 23, 1830, married James H. Blake, Caroline Augusta, born July 11, 1839, married D. Yarrington.

He was succeeded as physician at New Troy by Dr. George F. Wurts to whom he sold his residence. Dr. Wurts was a relative of Maurice Wurts who organized the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company, and founded the City of Carbondale. He lived and practiced medicine in New Troy until 1855 or 1856, when he died. May 1, 1851 Maurice Wurts sold the property of Dr. Wurts to James Jenkins and Thomas F. Atherton.

Another early physician at New Troy was, Dr. Alfred Brace, who was born May 2, 1800 at Orange, Luzerne County, and studied medicine with Dr. John Smith. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College, and practiced at Falls and at Orange, but in 1839 removed to Wyoming, and lived in a property adjoining the Methodist parsonage. In 1840, he bought the John Perkins tavern, and conducted it for a number of years, in connection with his practice. He married September 21, 1828, Catherine Van Loon, born January 21, 1809, died January 22, 1893. He died December 12, 1868. Their children were: Frances, born July 11, 1829, died January 22, 1893, married Charles Carey, Louisa, born 1833, died 1901, Susan, born 1835, died 1905, Ella Z., born December 15, 1838, died March 5, 1901, married Avert Smith; Burrell, born January 3, 1841, married Mary Celestia Sherman; Henrietta, born February 18, 1843, died 1904, married Daniel Laycock; Marietta, born February 18, 1843; Albertine, born July 22, 1845, married George M. Stark.

Dr. Thomas J. Halsey located at New Troy in 1839. He was born in Howard, Steuben County, N. Y., in 1814, and studied medicine at Bethany, Wayne County, Pennsylvania, with Dr. Roosa. He lived at New Troy for a number of years and then removed to Pittston, but continued to practice in the upper end of the township until 1870, when he removed to Missouri. Dr. Halsey died at Antioch in that state, January 10, 1881. He was first married at Bethany to Abigail Kellogg, and their children were: Helen M., who married Ami Gilchrist, who at one time conducted the Exchange Hotel at Kingston; William; Mary; and Victoria, who never married, but is still living at the age of eighty-eight, in the old Dr. Roosa house at Bethany, where her father studied medicine nearly a hundred years ago. Dr. Halsey married second Ann Wildrick, and their children were: Frank S. Halsey, born February 2, 1853, died May 8, 1927, who lived for many years in Kingston and Forty Fort; Jean married Andrew Hoflich; Clarence; and Gertrude who married John F. Aulgur.

Dr. J. B. Crawford located at Wyoming in 1852 and practiced there until 1870, when he removed to Wilkes-Barre. He was born in Orange County, N. Y. and served three years during the Civil War as an army surgeon.

In 1841 and 1842, Dr. Dewitt C. Warner was practicing medicine here, but did not remain long; and another physician who only remained a short time was Dr. Ashbel B. Longshore, father of the late Dr. W. R. Longshore of Hazleton. He removed to Beaver Meadow.

Dr. Robert H. Tubbs came to the vicinity of Kingston Corners and began his practice in 1845. He was the son of Robert Tubbs and Clara Hoyt Tubbs, a daughter of Daniel Hoyt and was born at Elkland, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1819. He graduated from the Medical College of Vermont at Woodstock, January 19, 1844. Dr. Tubbs married Emily E. Reynolds a daughter of Benjamin Reynolds of Plymouth. He purchased the Elijah Loveland residence on Wyoming Avenue, just below Swainbanks store where he resided until his death. He was at one time president of the Luzerne County Medical Society and was one of the most prominent and successful physicians of his time. The children of Dr. Tubbs were: Benjamin R. Tubbs, who conducted a drug store adjoining his father's residence for many years; Mrs. George B. Markle; and Mary Covell Tubbs.

Dr. Marshall G. Whitney, began to practice medicine at Kingston Village in 1846 or 1847. He was born in 1818, and was the son of Elliott, brother of Dr. Asa C. Whitney, one of the town's first physicians. Marshall G. Whitney's mother was Maria Goodwin, a sister of Abraham Goodwin. He married Louise Thorpe, born December 1828, died July 28, 1872, and they had one son Emile, now living in Scranton and a daughter. Dr. Whitney practiced in Kingston for many years, residing on Main street below the school house. He later removd to Plymouth, where he practiced his profession, but before his death, returned to Kingston, but did not practice. He died in 1910.

Dr. G. S. Schott practiced medicine in the township for a time about 1850, residing on Main Street, Kingston, in the house, now owned by William Troster. He left about 1856.

Dr. John A. Hann began to practice at Wyoming about 1847, and remained there for a number of years.

Dr. Reuben H. Little practiced medicine in Kingston from 1856 to 1859.

In 1868, Dr. John G. Sperling located at Wyoming. He was born at Ohlan, Prussia, and graduated from the University of Breslau, Prussia, February 12, 1852. In 1859, Dr. Sperling located in Kingston Borough where he continued to reside until his death. He was one of the best known of the early doctors, and resided for years on Maple Street and then on Wyoming Avenue.

Dr. James Rowley Lewis, was the first physician to locate over the Kingston Mountain, establishing himself at Trucksville, where he settled in 1833. He was born at Petersburg, N. Y. December 1, 1804 and practiced at Trucksville for over half a century. His first wife Jeanette died January 19, 1833, and he married for his second wife, Mary daughter of Alexander Ferguson of Dallas. Their children were: Thonas Hart Benton, born February 22, 1835; died October 5, 1921; Jeanette, born August 23, 1836, died August 19, 1911; Margaret, born June 2, 1838; died May 6, 1911; James M., born September 30, 1841;

died December 25, 1874; Esther, born June 17, 1844, died March 25, 1921; Sylvia Jane born August 20, 1848, died September 19, 1851; Mary born October 27, 1856, died January 2, 1905. Dr. Lewis died at Trucksville, November 2, 1883.

His son Dr. James M. Lewis began the practice of medicine at Wyoming in 1868, and resided there until his death in 1874.

Dr. Frederic Corss, began the practice of medicine in Kingston in 1866. He was the son of Rev. Charles Chapin and Ann Hoyt Corss, and was born January 16, 1842. He was educated in the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute at Towanda, Wyoming Seminary, and graduated from Lafayette College in 1862. Dr. Corss attended the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1866, and began the practice of his profession in Kingston Borough on March 17th of that year. He soon became one of the leading physicians of Wyoming Valley; and was always prominently identified with the affairs of Kingston Borough. He was a member of the school board for many years, and largely due to his ability and energy, the schools were greatly improved. Dr. Corss was a great student and was a profoundly and widely read man. He married June 19, 1872, Martha Sarah Hoyt, born October 14, 1849.

Dr. A. J. Tripp practiced at Wyoming from 1871 to 1877. Other physicians practicing within the limits of the old township were Dr. D. H. Silkworth, 1874, Dr. D. H. Dornsife, 1876, Dr. W. F. Peck 1876 to 1878, Dr. S. A. Jones 1878, Dr. W. F. Pier 1879.

Dr. William R. Gates lived at the old Gates homestead in Kingston for many years but did not practice.

Following is a list of the later physicians who have lived within the limits of old Kingston Township since 1881:

Philip B. Cook born at Potterville, Bradford County, Pa.; graduated from Princeton College in 1857 and from Miami Medical College Cincinnati, Ohio, March 1, 1867, and located in Kingston Borough.

Dr. Bennett J. Cobleigh, born at Plymouth, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, April 1, 1883, and located in Kingston.

Dr. William Henry Faulds, born at Minersville, Pa., graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, March 10, 1876, and located in Luzerne Borough.

Dr. Eugene Stanley Hays, born at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., graduated from Detroit Medical School February 28, 1881, and located at Wyoming.

Dr. Charles Paxton Knapp, born at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., graduated from Lafayette College, and from Bellevue Medical College, N. Y., and located at Wyoming.

Dr. David H. Lake, born in Wales, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, April 2, 1885, and located at Kingston.

Dr. Paul Alexander Quick, born in Bradford County, Pa., graduated from the University of Buffalo, February 24, 1874, and located at Kingston, December 8, 1883.

Dr. L. Leonidas Rogers, born at Huntsville, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College March 12, 1881, first located at Plains and then removed to Kingston.

Dr. Albert D. Thomas born at Llewellyn, Schuylkill County, Pa., graduated from Hahneman Medical College, March 10, 1881, and located at Forty Fort.

Dr. Jerome B. Weida, born in Berks County, Pa., graduated from the University of Vermont, in July 1883. He first located at Freeland and then removed to Luzerne Borough.

Dr. Henry Simon Clauser, born at Hazleton, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, May 15, 1896, and located at Forty Fort September 29, 1896.

Dr. William F. Davison, born at Cambra, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, May 15, 1896 and located at Dorranceton.

Dr. John W. Kirschner, born at Hazleton, Pa., graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, in 1905 and located at Luzerne.

Dr. Patrick A. McLaughlin born at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., began practice at Kingston, July 13, 1900.

Dr. Daniel Guy Robinhold, born at Port Clinton, Schuylkill County, Pa., and began practice at Forty Fort, July 13, 1900.

Dr. John Edward Scheifly, born at Shenandoah, Pa., graduated at Jefferson Medical College and located at Kingston.

Dr. James Thompson, born at Pittston, Pa., graduated from Baltimore College of Physicians April 19, 1893; from University of Pennsylvania June 7, 1894, located at Forty Fort.

Dr. Ira Robertson Teitsworth born in Columbia County, Pa., graduated from Medico Chirurgical College, May 29, 1904, located at Kingston

Dr. Homer Bowen Wilcox, born at Kingston, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, June 12, 1901, located at Kingston.

Dr. Lewis Edwards born in Wales, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, April 15, 1891, first located at Edwardsville and then at Kingston.

Dr. John Butler Grover, born at Hobbie, Pa., graduated from Albany Medical College, April 27, 1892, located at Kingston but soon removed.

Dr. Henry Kunkel, born at New Ringgold, Schuylkill County, Pa., graduated from Lafayette College and from Baltimore College of Physicians and Surgeons, April 1, 1889, located at Kingston.

Dr. Walter Lathrop, born at Montrose, Pa., graduated from University of Pennsylvania, May 1, 1890, located at Kingston, but removed to Hazleton.

Dr. Samuel A. Ruffner, born at Point Pleasant, West Virginia, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, April 12, 1890, located at Kingston.

Dr. Jacob Anson Singer, born at Stroudsburg, Pa., graduated from the University of the City of New York, March 13, 1883, located at Forty Fort.

Dr. C. A. Wilkinson, born at Town Line, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, April 4, 1888, located at Dorranceton.

Dr. A. Albert Dattner, born at Wilkes-Barre, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, January 4, 1915, located at Kingston, but removed.

Dr. Francis B. Gryczka, born at Blossburg, Pa., graduated from Medico Chirurgical College, June 4, 1915, located at Kingston.

Dr. M. Clark Johnson, located at Kingston.

Dr. Frank Farrell, located at Kingston.

Dr. Frees B. Kleintob, born at Broadway, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, June 5, 1916, located at Wyoming.

Dr. Ruth Mitchell Lance, born at Plymouth, Pa., graduated from Cornell University, June 12, 1910, located at Kingston.

Dr. Charles Hayden Phillips born at Edwardsville, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, June 7, 1914, located at Kingston.

Dr. Marshall G. Rumbaugh born at Thompsontown, Pa., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, June 8, 1908, located at Dorranceton.

Dr. Stanley H. Rynkiewicz, born at Jackson, Michigan, graduated from University of Maryland, June 1, 1911, located at Kingston.

Dr. Lewis Leonidas Rogers, Jr., born at Kingston, graduated from University of Pennsylvania, June 18, 1913, located at Kingston.

Dr. Lawrence M. Thompson born at Newton, N. J., graduated from Columbia University, June 5, 1912, located at Dorranceton but removed.

Dr. Joseph Charles Tripp, born at DeRuyter, N. Y., graduated from Hahneman College, May 1894, located at Dorranceton for a short time.

Dr. Alfred Woodward Grover, born at Hobbie, Pa., graduated from Albany Medical College, May 3, 1907, located at Kingston.

Dr. Fred J. E. Sperling, born at Kingston, graduated from Hahneman Medical College, Philadelphia, May 24, 1917, located at Kingston

Dr. Felix J. Krych, born at Wilkes-Barre, graduated from Baltimore Medical College June 3, 1909, located at Kingston and Forty Fort.

Dr. Charles Layton Shafer born at Williamsport, Pa., graduated from Syracuse University June 12, 1908, located at Kingston

Dr. Vivian P. Edwards, born at Kingston, graduated from Baltimore Medical College, May 25, 1909, located at Luzerne, but removed to Edwardsville.

Dr. Almon C. Hazlett, located at Wyoming.

CHAPTER XXII.

RAILROADS AND MODERN INDUSTRY

The Susquehanna Ralroad Company Incorporated in 1833 to Build a Railroad on West Side of River—Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad Incorporated in 1852, The First Locomotive Railroad in Wyoming Valley—First Train Run, June 24, 1856—Other Railroads—Development of the Coal Industry—Street Railways and Electric Light Companies—Financial Institutions.

The completion of the Erie Canal in 1825; and the success of two young engineers, John B. Jervis and Horatio Allen, in building a canal, from the Hudson River into the hills of Northeastern Pennsylvania; and their construction there in 1829 of the first real railroad in the United States, stirred the imaginations of the American people, and stimulated a craze for the internal improvement of their country, which wrecked the finances of states and the fortunes of individuals. As a result, of the energy and foresight of Maurice Wurts, projector of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and the skill of his engineers, the City of Carbondale rose like magic in the wilderness of Northern Luzerne County, and buoyed the hopes, of the people of the Wyoming Valley, that canals and railroads would soon be built, to tap their wealth of coal.

The North Branch canal was already on the way; but, it was twenty-seven years, before the whistle of a locomotive was heard in Wyoming Valley. Possessing, beyond other sections, the great resources of fertile land and vast deposits of coal, it limped far behind in the race of material progress.

The people of the west side were grevously disappointed, because, the engineers did not follow, their side of the river in constructing the canal, but it being a project of the state, the political influence of Wilkes-Barre overcame their desires, and it was built on the east side from Nanticoke to Pittston. While it provided a means for the shipment of coal and grain, it did not meet the great expectations of the people, for the packet boats were at best but a slow means of travel; and for years, the stage coaches still lumbered over the hills and mountains, to Tamaqua and Great Bend in Susquehanna County, where, there were the nearest railroads.

The people of Kingston township did not permit their disappointment, to overcome their ambition, and early cast about for some means of access to the outside world; and while their first ambitious project was not crowned with success, it was the prelude of their later, successful endeavor. The citizens of New Troy now Wyoming initiated the movement, and on January 26, 1833, a largely attended meeting was held at the house of Captain Henry Breese, in that village for the purpose of finding ways and means to build a railroad. This was the first railroad project in the valley. Colonel Erastus Hill was chairman and Major John Perkins and Dr. John Smith were secretaries. According to the minutes, a committee was appointed, "To consider the expediency of building a railroad, commencing on the west side of the river from Nanticoke Dam to the north line of the state, and make connection with the Ithaca and Owego Railroad."

The next meeting was held, the following Monday evening at the same place, and the committee reported as follows: "That to build a railroad with granite sills and flat iron bars would cost $11,118.33; for laying a single track of rails with stone blocks and ridge rails, $10,331.63, and for laying a single track of rails with transverse sills and rails of wood and flat iron bars, $5,579.25 per mile and that the capital required to construct the road would be $1,100,000. The ascent would be two feet per mile, and admirably adapted for the use of a ten horse power locomotive engine, which would transport fifty tons of coal ten miles an hour. That, when completed. the average tonnage would be 100,000 tons at one cent per ton per mile, or a revenue of $100,000; and that the hauling of butter, cheese, pork, whiskey, etc., from New York state, would increase the revenue to $140,000, or sufficient to pay twelve per cent on the investment."

The next meeting was held at the house of Oliver Helme (now Exchange Hotel), in Kingston Village, March 1, 1833, and Captain Samuel Thomas was elected president; Henderson

Gaylord, and Fisher Gay*, vice presidents; and Harris Jenkins and Henry Pettebone secretaries. Approval of a bill in the legislature was voted, and a committee was appointed, composed of, Elias Hoyt, Sharp D. Lewis, Dr. John Smith, Charles Dorrance, Henderson Gaylord, William C. Reynolds, and William Swetland. The Governor approved, April 9, 1833, the bill incorporating the "Susquehanna Railroad Company." The act provided for, twenty thousand shares at fifty dollars each, and for the following rates of toll per ton: coal, two cents per mile; salt three cents per mile; gypsum and lime two cents per mile; brick two cents per mile; lumber, per hundred feet solid, two cents; sawed lumber, two cents per thousand, per mile; shingles per thousand, one and a half cents per mile; staves for hogsheads, two cents per thousand, and staves for barrels, one cent, per mile, per thousand; all other articles, three cents, per ton, per mile. It was also provided that one half of the excess of all dividends over twelve per cent should be appropriated for the purposes of education; and the state reserved the right, to purchase the railroad at the expiration of thirty years. In fact, in every way, the rights of the people were amply protected in this act, which illustrates that corporate influence had not yet attained, its dominant and nefarious sway, over the government of Pennsylvania; and that the legislators of that day were not the servile slaves of wealth.

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*COLONEL EBENEZER GAY, was born at Litchfield, Connecticut, December 26, 1725, married first Ann Cole, born February 26, 1733, died December 23, 1752, and their children were: David, born October 10, 1754, married Keziah Merchant; Rebecca born October 27, 1756; Ann born June 26, 1760. Colonel Gay married second, November 21, 1765, Elizabeth Fairbanks, born October 26, 1745, died December 8, 1827, and their children were: I. Betsey, born in October, 1766, died in same year; II. Ebenezer Jr., born June 17, 1770, died May 28, 1829, married Betsey Woodruff, born June 7, 1773, died February 21, 1860. They resided at Mehoopany, Pa. Their children were: 1. Eleanor born May 26, 1792, died June 27, 1872, married Joshua Pettebone; 2. Gilbert married Lucinda Esteelle Harris, born December 3, 1797, died June 22, 1873, married Mary Ross, born 1797, died February 19, 1867; they lived at Lockville, Pa. and their children were, John born 1818 died 1899, married Julia Van Tuyle; Rev. William born September 11, 1820 died December 5, 1901, married Nancy Sickler; Thomas L. born 1822, died 1892, married Jane Avery; Mary C., born 1824, died 1888, married Ira Swartwood; Elizabeth, born March 22, 1827, died August 14, 1884, married Theodore Hatten; Eunice, born 1831, married Lewis Whitlock; Jane born 1832, died 1894, married Benjamin Coolbaugh; Milo born 1834, married Samantha Lateer; Sarah born 1837, married David Walters; 4. Milo born 1801, died 1861; 5. Ansel, born 1805, married Sarah Whitcomb, lived in Kingston Township and once conducted the Bowers tannery, and had a son Eben Gay who lived at West Wyoming; 6. James born March 1, 1808, died September 2, 1887, married Almira Hollenback; 7. Franklin, born September 16, 1813, died September 4, 1880. III Almira born September 15, 1772; IV Sarah, born February 9, 1775, married Belding Swetland; V. Fisher born May 6, 1778, died July 3, 1857, married first February 5, 1801, Elizabeth Mygatt, born March 21, 1781, died February 16, 1827. Fisher Gay came to Kingston Township in 1807 and owned the farm upon which the Monument stands. He was a prominent citizen of the township. His children were: 1. Sally born October 26, 1801, married Charles H. Welles; 2. Preston, born December 28, 1802, died February 19, 1841; 3. Simeon, born February 3, 1806, married January 12, 1831, Betsey Barber, born January 7, 1808 died July 26, 1866, and their children were: George W. born May 9, 1833, died January 10, 1854; Fisher born December 5, 1838, died June 6, 1914, married January 10, 1861, Phebe Brace, born September 25, 1838, died May 26, 1918 and their children are: John B., born February 25, 1864, Archie W., born December 16, 1868, Peter Barber born February 7, 1871; 4. Kitsey born June 19, 1808, married Alexander Clark Shaver; 5. Erastus born February 12, 1811 died March 21, 1815; 6. Betsey born and died in 1813; 7. Eliza born March 29, 1815 died December 29, 1844, married Cyrenus M. Smith; 8. John B. born November 17, 1817, died April 9, 1880; 9. Maria L. born September 19, 1821, died March 8, 1844; 10. Margaret born November 8, 1823, died November 15, 1872, married Daniel G. Dayton. Fisher Gay married as his second wife Susanah Smith Osterhout, daughter of Dr. William Hooker Smith and had one daughter Anna who died in 1830.

The incorporators or commissioners named in the act were: Joseph Wright, Henderson Gaylord, William C. Reynolds, James Nesbitt, Jr., Samuel Thomas, Sharp D. Lewis, Elias Hoyt, Benjamin Dorrance, William Hancock, John Brees, William Swetland, Dr. John Smith, John Perkins, Peirce Butler, Charles D. Shoemaker, Isaac Harding, Elisha Harding, Asa Stephens, Nicholas Overfield, James Wright, Reuben Wilber, Samuel McKean, Thomas Elliott, Henry Willis, John Laporte, Clement Paine, Ellis Lewis, John L. Webb, Eliphalet Mason, Lockwood Smith, A. H. Read, David Post, C. L. Ward, Bela Jones, Asa Dimock, Jr., James C. Biddle, Hiram Finch, and Spencer Hicox. They were all from Plymouth, Kingston, Exeter, Tunkhannock, and Bradford and Susquehanna counties.

The incorporators held their first meeting in Kingston, at the house of Oliver Helme on April 30, 1833, and organized by electing Elias Hoyt president, and Samuel Thomas and John Smith secretaries. At a meeting held August 8, 1833, it was decided to advertise for bids. The agitation continued, considerable stock was subscribed, and the influential and wealthy Drinker family of Montrose and Philadelphia, became interested in the project. The records indicate, that the Wilkes-Barre people remained jealously aloof, but this did not deter the enterprising men of Kingston, Plymouth, Exeter and Pittston, who went ahead with their surveys and plans.

It was evidently intended, that connection should be made at Pittston with the railroad, which Henry Drinker had planned over the Pocono Mountains, for not only Mr. Drinker but William Henry*, who then resided at Stroudsburg, was interested.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Susquehanna Railroad was held, at the tavern of Oliver Helme in Kingston, December 15, 1835, and a president, ten managers, and a treasurer elected.

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*WILLIAM HENRY, the father of the city of Scranton, was born at Bolton, near Nazareth, in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, August 15, 1799, and died at the age of eighty-four years, at his residence near the stone bridge on Wyoming Avenue in Kingston Township, where he lived in his later years. He was one of the famous family of gun makers, located at Lancaster and Bolton, who made many of the guns for the American armies, in the Colonial

Henry W. Drinker was elected president; Chester Butler, treasurer; and Elias Hoyt, Sharp D. Lewis, John Jordan, Jr., John Smith, John Bell, Joseph Wright, Richard Drinker, John Perkins, William Henry, and John Brees, managers.

The panic of 1837, seriously interfered with the promotion of railroads, and the tremendous burden of debt incurred in constructing internal improvements, was a great handicap to productive enterprise. The Susquehanna Railroad languished and died, and the ambitious schemes of Henry Drinker and William Henry were absorbed by other schemes,, the incorporation of which finally resulted in the construction of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.

The people of Kingston Township, however, did not forget the idea of a railroad, on the west side of the river, and when the time was ripe, it bore fruition in the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad, the first locomotive road to enter Wyoming Valley.

In 1840, Mr. Henry had built for Scranton, Grant & Company, the Lackawanna Iron Works, which enterprise resulted in the building of a large town in the wilderness, now known as Scranton; and in order to market the product of their works, the Scrantons constructed a railroad to Great Bend in Susquehanna county, where connection was made with the Erie Railroad. This was completed and passenger train service inaugurated May 31, 1852. With these trains, stages made connection with the towns in the Wyoming Valley.

The leading men of Kingston township, when the Scrantons began the construction of their railroad to Great Bend, and perhaps inspired by memories of the Susquehanna Railroad, began an agitation for the construction of a railroad to Scranton. At the same time, a railroad was being built from Catawissa to Tamaqua, where connection was to be made with the Reading

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wars and the Revolution. William Henry was the friend of Henry Drinker, and surveyed his railroad routes and was his principal agent in promoting those projects. He thus became acquainted with the locality, known as Slocum Hollow, and his knowledge of iron manufacture led him to conclude, that it was a proper place to build an iron furnace. He induced George W. Scranton, Sanford Grant, Selden T. Scranton, and Philip Mattes to buy, in 1840, the site of the present city of Scranton, then a wilderness. After discouragement and failure, he finally succeeded in building the works of the Lackawanna Iron Co., and a town which he called "Harrison," in honor of the Whig candidate for president, which name was later changed to Scranton. Mr. Henry was the first manager of the Scranton works; and his daughter, by his first wife married Selden T. Scranton. His second wife was Sarah Atherton, daughter of Elisha Atherton of Kingston, and by her he had two children: Lydia Henry, who married Rev. W. S. Stites, and the late Thomas Henry Atherton, the well known lawyer. After his connection with the Scranton company ceased, Mr. Henry for a time conducted a foundry in West Wyoming.

Railroad for Philadelphia. By building a railroad from Scranton to Rupert, where connection could be made with this Catawissa road, a through route would be afforded from Scranton to Philadelphia, and likewise, a route would be provided from this valley to New York by way of Great Bend. Colonel George W. Scranton lent his support to the Kingston men, and they were joined by the leading men of Pittston, Plymouth, Berwick, and Bloomsburg, and thus the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad was born. The legislature passed the act of incorporation, and it was approved by Governor Bigler, April 5, 1852. It provided, that the capital stock of the company should consist of eighteen thousand shares at fifty dollars per share; and that the company should have the right to build a railroad, commencing at the village of Scranton, and running by the villages of New Troy and Kingston by way of Berwick to Bloomsburg; and it was further authorized to extend its road from Bloomsburg to Danville. The incorporators were: George W. Woodward, Horatio W. Nicholson, George M. Hollenback, Thomas Myers, William McKelvy, Reuben W. Weaver, Charles R. Paxton, Morrison E. Jackson, James S. Campbell, Edward H. Baldy, Noah S. Prentis, John K. Grotz, John P. Grove, Thomas Brandon, William Koons, Jameson Harvey, Henderson Gaylord, William C. Reynolds, Charles Dorrance, Andrew Bedford, John Bennet, William Swetland, Samuel Benedict, Thomas Smith, William Merrifield, Benjamin H. Throop, Samuel Hoyt, and Samuel Wadhams.

The first meeting of the incorporators was held May 22, 1852, and the minutes are as follows:

MINUTES OF LACKAWANNA & BLOOMSBURG RAILROAD MEETING HELD AT PUBLIC HOUSE OF FRANK HELME IN KINGSTON, MAY 22, 1852.

At a meeting held at the house of Frank Helme in Kingston village, Luzerne County on Saturday, 22nd day of May 1852, by Samuel Benedict, Thomas Smith, William Swetland, William Koons, Thomas Myers, Henderson Gaylord, William C. Reynolds, Charles Dorrance, John Bennet & Samuel Hoyt, ten of the Commissioners named or appointed by an Act of Assembly of Pennsylvania approved the 5th day of April Ao Di 1852 incorporating the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad Company.

On motion of Wm. Swetland Esq., Samuel Benedict Esq. was elected President and Thomas Smith and Samuel Hoyt were elected Secretaries.

On motion it was resolved to open books for Subscriptions for the Stock of said Company.

On motion William Swetland, Thomas Smith and William Koons, Esq. were appointed a Committee to fix upon the time and place for opening Books for the Subscriptions of Stock of the said "Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad Company" who after Consultation report that notice given by publication in the Wilkes-Barre Farmer & Pittston Gazette and other public papers in Luzerne, Columbia & Montour Counties. That the Commissioners named in the Act of Assembly incorporating the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad Company will meet on Wednesday the 23rd day of June Ao Di 1852 at 10 o'clock A. M. at the house of Frank Helme in Kingston, Luzerne County at which time and place the books for subscriptions to the Capital Stock of said Company will be opened "as required by the Act of Assembly," and the said books will be kept open for three days, viz: on Wednesday 23rd day of June & 24th & 25th for six hours at least from 9 o'clock A. M. until 4 o'clock P. M. of each of said days after which if the Stock be not taken they will adjourn to the Exchange Hotel in Bloomsburg, Columbia County on Tuesday the 29th & 30th & 1st day of July next, thence to the Montour House in Danville, Montour County on Tuesday the 6th and 7th & 8th days of said month, thence adjourn to the House of Frederick Nicely in Berwick on the 12th & 13th days of July, thence to the House or Phoenix Hotel in Wilkes-Barre on the 15th day of July, thence to the House of A. M. Jeffords in New Troy (Wyoming) on Saturday the 17th day of July, thence to the House of I. D. Forsman on the 19th of said month, thence to the Hotel in Scranton on the 20th day of July, & thence to the Hotel of Samuel A. Brady on the 21st day of July & continue one day. Report adopted.

On motion, Thomas Smith and Thomas Myers were appointed a Committee to procure releases, &c., of owners of land of the Right of Way for said Railroad &c., and it was resolved that they be paid out of the contingent fund of said Company for said services.

On motion. Charles Dorrance and Samuel Hoyt were chosen a Committee to procure books & papers necessary for organization of said Company & Chas. Dorrance, William Swetland, William C. Reynolds & Samuel Hoyt were appointed a Committee to procure a certified copy of the Law or Act incorporating said L. & B. Railroad Company &c.

On motion adjourned to meet at same place on Wednesday, June 23rd, 1852 at 10 o'clock A. M.

Samuel Hoyt,
Secretary.

The enterprise of Kingston aroused the Wilkes-Barre people and the same legislature chartered the Wilkes-Barre and Scranton Railroad, and a meeting to obtain subscriptions was advertised to be held July 7, 1852. The Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad received little assistance, and considerable opposition from the people of Wilkes-Barre who interposed their railroad scheme more as an obstruction, than as a substantial enterprise.

That they did not delude their own newspapers is to be inferred from the following article which appeared in the Wilkes-Barre Advocate June 2, 1852, "It (the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad) and the Catawissa Road completed, it will connect a railroad leading to Philadelphia with a road leading to New York and Buffalo. If those interested in making the proposed railroad from Scranton to Wilkes-Barre do not effect it, perhaps after the other one is made, a railroad might be made to intersect it at Kingston Village. There is more probability of this as the good citizens of Kingston, might desire to connect that railroad with the one leading to White Haven."

On April 16, 1853, the first meeting of the stockholders was held at the hotel of A. M. Jeffords in the village of Wyoming. The minutes are as follows:

"Wyoming, April 16, 1853, William Swetland, William C. Reynolds, Samuel Benedict, Samuel Hoyt, Thomas Myers, Henderson Gaylord, and Charles Dorrance, Commissioners were present at the public house of A. M. Jeffords in the village of Wyoming, pursuant to public notice in the Pittston Gazette and True Democrat, for the two previous consecutive weeks, when on motion of William C. Reynolds, William Swetland was elected chairman. On motion, Davis Alton, Andrew Patten, and Philander Rexford were appointed Judges to hold an election for a president and twelve directors of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Rail Road Company; whereupon, William Swetland was elected president and George W. Scranton, Ira Tripp, Samuel Benedict, Amos Y. Smith, Thomas F. Atherton, Charles D. Shoemaker, Charles Dorrance, Samuel Hoyt, William C. Reynolds, Henderson Gaylord, Mordecai N. Jackson and William McKelvy were elected directors of said company by a majority of all the votes given at said election.

Samuel Hoyt, Secretary.

"Wyoming, April 16, 1853. At a meeting of the Board of Directors, present, William Swetland, President, Henderson Gaylord, Thomas F. Atherton, William C. Reynolds, Samuel Benedict, Charles Dorrance and Samuel Hoyt, directors.

On motion Davis Alton was elected permanent secretary. On motion William C. Reynolds was elected treasurer.

Samuel Hoyt Sect.

On motion, the president appointed William C. Reynolds, Charles Dorrance, and Samuel Hoyt a committee to make arrangements to procure releases for the right of way for said rail road company and settle for the same. On motion the president was authorized to procure the services of a competent engineer to survey the route and make an approximate estimate for said road.

On motion, the secretary was directed to examine and report at the next meeting such books as will be necessary for the use of said company. On motion, resolved, that the board adjourn to meet at this house on Saturday the 23d day of this month at 10 o'clock A. M.

Davis Alton Secy."

By May 23, 1853, $100,000 of the capital stock had been subscribed and most of the right of way obtained. At a meeting of the directors held July 5, 1853, Edward McNeil, Esq., chief engineer of the Lackawanna and Western Railroad, who had made a survey of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg road reported, that the route as laid from Scranton to Catawissa was fifty-five miles long, and the highest grade fifteen feet to the mile; and that he estimated the cost to be $1,166,000, or $21,000 per mile. In 1854, William Swetland* was president; Payne Pettebone†, treasurer; and Thomas F. Atherton, secretary. About the middle of May of the same year, grading was started at Scranton, and the engineers under Mr. McNeil were locating the road. About $500,000 in reliable subscriptions had then been obtained.

During the summer of 1854, the construction of the road used up the finances of the company, and in February 1855, the New York Tribune reported that a committee was in New-York to obtain a $200,000 subscription to the stock of the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad. Funds were procured, and during the summer of 1855, the work of grading was nearly completed to Kingston, and in the following spring, the laying of the rails from Scranton to Kingston finished. Early in June, 1856, the depot on the site of the present one was built, on land donated by Madison F. Myers.

The "Wilkes-Barre Record of the Times", under date of June 18, 1856, contained the following editorial.

"THE GOOD TIME COME"

"Kingston is ahead! They have a railroad. The Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R. R. advertise their time table for trains to run between Scranton and Kingston, next Tuesday. We can hardly realize that within a mile of us is a bona fide railroad running, to New York and Philadelphia, but such is the fact, and the news will be welcomed by every man, woman and child in Wyoming Valley. To the West Side of the river, and to Pittston, and Scranton belongs the credit. All honor to the enterprising spirits, that have pushed the work through. Beyond all comparison, this is the greatest blessing that ever fell to the lot of this charming valley. Amidst talking and quarreling, and bitterness, and that ugly monster, jealousy, the time has been spent for years; but thanks not to Wilkes-Barre, but to those they have been opposing, the work is accomplished."

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*William Swetland, son of Belding Swetland, was born June 26, 1789 in Sharon, Connecticut, and came with his parents to Wyoming Valley. When a young man, he became a clerk for Elias Hoyt who conducted a store at Kingston Corners, and in 1815 entered into partnership with Mr. Hoyt in the general store business in New Troy, in the old store building on the Avenue which was built by William Swetland on the Swetland farm. Later he was in business with David Baldwin, but about 1834, his son-in-law Payne Pettebone entered into partnership with him under the name of William Swetland and Company. He was the first postmaster of Wyoming. He acquired a large fortune and was identified with many business enterprises of the Wyoming Valley. His financial support enabled Wyoming Seminary to weather the storm after the destructive fire which destroyed its buildings. He was president and one of the principal backers of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad. For a time he conducted a private banking business at Wyoming. Mr. Swetland married, September 28, 1819, Catherine, born May 18, 1799, died October 6, 1893, daughter of Dr. Peter Seiler of Northampton County, Pa., and their children were: 1 Caroline, born October 17, 1820, married Payne Pettebone; 2. Mary, born August 19, 1824, died August 7, 1829. 3. George W., born May 29, 1829, married August 23, 1860, Mary, daughter of Peter Polen; 4. Margaret A., born March 16, 1836, died March 27, 1860, married William H. Brown. Mr. Swetland died September 27, 1864.

†Payne Pettebone was born December 23, 1813, died March 21, 1888, married October 3, 1837 to Caroline M. Swetland, daughter of William Swetland. His parents were Payne and Sarah Tuttle Pettebone. When a young man, he became a clerk in the store of William Swetland and about 1834, became a partner in the business. Mr. Pettebone was a very successful man and succeededto the large interests of Mr. Swetland which he managed and developed. He was one of the officers of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad, and was connected prominently with many commercial interests of Wyoming Valley. He was a trustee of Wyoming Seminary for many years, and he and his wife were two of the principal benefactors of that institution. His children were: Mary S., born October 5, 1838, died December 6, 1844; Frances, born September 5, 1842, died November 17, 1845; William S., born July 2, 1844, died June 22, 1850; Edward, born December 22, 1848 died March 23, 1852; Kate S., born September 27, 1851, married Allan H. Dickson, Esq., born November 14, 1851, died January 21, 1893, and their daughter Dorothy, born December 12, 1883, marred Frank G. Darte; Robert Treat Pettebone, born December 12, 1858, died January 17, 1911, married Hattie A. Willams, born 1861, died 1904.

The first time table was advertised, June 18, 1856, and was as follows:

> "Office of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad Company
> Kingston, Luzerne County, Pa., June 16, 1856
> Time table for the 24th June on the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R. R.
>
> 1st train will leave Scranton 7 o'clock A. M. Returning will leave Kingston at 8½ o'clock A. M.
>
> 2nd Train will leave Scranton at ½ before 11 o'clock A. M.
>
> Returning will leave Kingston at 4½ o'clock P. M.
>
> 3d Train will leave Scranton at 6 o'clock P. M. Returning will leave Kingston at 7½ o'clock P. M.
>
> All trains will stop at East and West Pittston, and Wyoming.
>
> N. Clapp Agent."

On the morning of June 24, 1856, the first locomotive drawing passenger cars entered Wyoming Valley. There were over three hundred passengers aboard. Shortly after daybreak on a fine June morning, the crowds began to gather in the fields about Kingston depot. They came up the river from as far away as Berwick and Bloomsburg; from over the mountain; from Wilkes-Barre and all parts of Luzerne county. Most of them had never seen a locomotive before, and the day was a great event in their lives. The Wyoming Artillerists who had served in the Mexican War were present with their cannon and a band discoursed music to the eager crowd. Shortly after eight o'clock the many anxious eyes turned northward, saw a little curl of steam rising in the air from the long stretch of straight and level track below Wyoming; and many who would not believe before the road would be a success, beheld the little locomotive puffing along at a great speed, for those times, and drawing a number of gaily painted coaches filled with people. As the engine approached the depot, the driver blew his whistle.

It was the signal. The cannon roared, church bells were rung, a great cheer went up, and the people knew that after years of backwardness and unnecessary delay, Wyoming Valley had at last modern connection with the outside world.

The first superintendent was N. Clapp, and he was succeeded in July 1857 by A. N. Rogers. F. J. Leavenworth was the next superintendent and Edwin McNeill became superintendent in 1858 and a little later president of the road. being succeeded as superintendent by M. W. Jackson in 1859. Shortly after 1860, the road got into financial difficulties and John I. Blair furnished the necessary funds to enable it to weather the storm. A controlling interest passed to the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, with which it was finally merged. Before this, however, it was extended to Danville and then to Northumberland. H. A. Fonda, and David T. Bound were the last superintendents.

One of the First Locomotives of the Lackawanna Railroad, the Keystone, Built in 1852.

The Pennsylvania and New York Canal and Railroad Company, under which name the Lehigh Valley Railroad was constructed north of Wilkes-Barre, began to build a railroad from

Coxton down through Exeter and Kingston Townships about 1883. The road was finally extended as far south as Pringle Street, Kingston in 1888. It has never been used for anything except freight, the principal business, being the transportation of coal.

The Wilkes-Barre and Harvey's Lake Railroad was projected about 1885. In 1886, a railroad was constructed by the way of Luzerne Borough, and through the gap above to Trucksville, Dallas and Harvey's Lake. This road was extended to Bernice, in Sullivan County. The main object, of its construction, was to tap the lumber region of Sullivan County. The promoters of this enterprise were Albert Lewis and Hon. John J. Shonk, who owned extensive timber lands. It serves a large territory, and was much needed. It was completed in 1889, and the officers then were Albert Lewis, President and George W. Shonk, Secretary. The Lehigh Valley Railroad was early interested in the scheme and has always operated it, as the Bowmans Creek Branch.

The Wilkes-Barre and Northern Railroad Company, which had been organized by John B. Reynolds, and Arthur A. Holbrook, about 1896, began the construction of a railroad, from the upper part of Luzerne Borough to Harvey's Lake. It was first operated by small steam locomotives, and the passenger cars were run over the Traction Company tracks, from Luzerne to Wilkes-Barre. The road was built to handle the summer passenger traffic between the valley and Harvey's Lake. After the construction of this road, Hillside, Trucksville and Shavertown began to grow rapidly, first as summer resorts, and a little later as places of permanent residence. This railroad soon got into financial difficulties and was sold by judicial sale; the Wilkes-Barre, Dallas and Harvey's Lake Railway, a subsidiary of the Traction Company, being formed to take it over. Soon after this sale, which was August 20, 1898, the use, of the locomotives, was discontinued and it was thereafter operated by electricity.

The Wilkes-Barre and Eastern Railroad Company began the construction of a railroad from Dorranceton to Stroudsburg in 1892; and freight and passenger depots were erected at the Kingston end of the Market Street bridge. The river was crossed near the Pettebone breaker by a steel bridge, the approach to it, being a long wooden trestle. Many years ago, the trestle became unsafe, and train service was discontinued west of the Susquehanna River, by the Erie Railroad, which had acquired the Wilkes-Barre and Eastern.

The Wilkes-Barre Connecting Railroad was built across Kingston flats to connect the Delaware and Hudson and the Pennsylvania Railroads, and is used for freight transfer entirely.

John B. Reynolds, Esq., was the father of electric transportation on the west side of the river. In order to accomplish the building of an electric street car railroad, he promoted, the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston Bridge Company, which began the construction of the North Street bridge May 10, 1887. The Wilkes-Barre and West Side Railway Company of which Mr. Reynolds was president and Peirce Butler, secretary constructed the first electric street car railroad in 1888 and 1889, by the way of North Street bridge, Peirce Street, Wyoming Avenue and Bennet Street, to Luzerne. A power house and car barn were erected on Peirce Street, and the cars were run into Wilkes-Barre over a track constructed along the Lehigh Valley Railroad tracks, below the present court house.

This line was acquired about 1891 by the Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming Valley Traction Company, which had purchased the stock of the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston Railway Company, the horse car line over Market Street. The Traction Company consolidated all of the electric railways, and extended the tracks up the Avenue to West Pittston and to Plymouth by the way of Edwardsville. The Wilkes-Barre Railway Company succeeded the Traction Company in the operation of the street car lines.

A telephone system was established in Wilkes-Barre before 1880, and the lines were soon after extended to Kingston.

The first electric lighting plant was installed by Wyoming Seminary in the summer of 1886 this being the first use of electricity for lighting in Wyoming Valley, other than by a miniature plant, which had been installed a few months before in the store of S. L. Brown in Wilkes-Barre.

The nucleus of the present Luzerne County Gas and Electric Company, which today supplies a large part of Luzerne County with gas, and electric light and power, was the Kingston Electric

Light, Heat and Power Company, which was incorporated January 4, 1889, to supply electric light in Kingston and the territory adjacent thereto. The first directors were: Frederic Corss, John B. Reynolds, Thomas R. Phillips, T. L Newell, J. B. Weida, Michael C Russell, Christian Bach, and George W. Shonk. The treasurer was George H. Flanagan. A plant was erected on Pringle Street along the Lackawanna tracks, and the light was furnished in Kingston, Edwardsville, Dorranceton and Luzerne. The capital was $20,000, and the subscribers to the stock were a large number of the citizens of Kingston, Edwardsville, Dorranceton, and Luzerne. John C. Haddock, who operated the Black Diamond mines at Luzerne, purchased a dynamo which was on exhibition at the World's Fair at Chicago, and installed it in a building near his breaker. He then formed the West Side Electric Light Company with a capital of $10,000. This was incorporated July 24, 1893, and the first directors were John C. Haddock, George W. Shonk and Thomas R. Phillips. Mr. Phillips was the manager of this concern, and it soon acquired the stock of the Kingston Electric Light, Heat and Power Company. The plant at Kingston was closed down and the Luzerne plant was enlarged, the arc system, of lighting the streets, being used.

The West Side Gas Company was incorporated June 3, 1892, it being formed for the purpose of the manufacture and supply of illuminating gas for light only in the Boroughs of Kingston, Edwardsville, Dorranceton, Forty Fort and Luzerne The incorporators were: Abram G Hoyt, John B. Yeager, John B. Smith, J. J. Robins, A. J. Roat, Harvey Yeager, and John Flanigan. The treasurer was John B. Yeager. A plant was erected in Edwardsville near Toby's Creek.

The West Side Electric Light Company and the West Side Gas Company were operated together for a time; and then were leased to the Wyoming Valley Gas and Electric Company.

Forty Fort Borough erected a municipal electric light plant which was operated for a number of years. The Mt. Lookout Coal Company at first furnished electric light in Wyoming Borough. There were consolidations and mergers, and all finally came under the control of the Luzerne County Gas and Electric Company.

THE COAL INDUSTRY

The first man to engage in the modern coal industry, in Kingston Township, was Caleb Maltby. Mr. Maltby, who then lived at Baltimore, Maryland, acquired ownership of lot No. 23 and one half of lot No. 24 of the Third Division, at the time the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad was under construction. His plans evidently contemplated the shipment of coal to Baltimore by way of the connection, at Rupert and later at Northumberland. He organized The Kingston Coal Company, not the present company of the same name, but another corporation, which passed away, long ago. This first, Kingston Coal Company was incorporated May 28, 1856, and the incorporators were: Caleb S. Maltby, William I. Morris, and William M. Clymonte of Baltimore; William G. Case of Wilkes-Barre, and Edward G. Markley of Sunbury. The capital was $250,000, and Mr. Maltby was the principal stockholder. He conveyed his coal lands to the company, July 8, 1856, and about that time began the construction of the works. William G. Case was the superintendent. The mine began shipping coal, early in April 1858, over the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad, it being the first mine in Kingston Township, to produce coal. A shaft was sunk, a little more than a hundred feet deep to the seven foot vein, and there were complete facilities for preparing coal and holding in the chutes, quite a large tonnage. Mr. Maltby was evidently much interested in having the railroad make its southern extension from Bloomsburg, at once; and at a meeting of the directors of the railroad company held, July 14, 1858, the contract for building the railroad from Rupert to Danville was let to him and Mr. Case. A company store was opened on the Avenue, near the corner of Owen Street and conducted under the name of W. G. Case & Co. Later Mr. Maltby undertook the sinking of a shaft to the lower veins, the locality of which was near Wyoming Avenue. The quick-sand interfered with this work, and the project was abandoned. The Kingston Coal Co., failed and the breaker and coal land were sold by the sheriff to Mr. Maltby, November 15, 1861; who conveyed the property to the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., June 15, 1882, that companv, since conducting it under the name of the Maltby Colliery.

The next operation was the East Boston mine, now carried on by William T. Payne. The Consumers Coal Company was incorporated April 25, 1865, and the incorporators were: Theodore P. Howell, Theodore Runyon, Aaron Coe, George Peters, and Charles N. Lockwood all of Newark, N. J. The capital was $300,000. A shaft was sunk and the breaker, a cut of which appears in another section of this book, was erected. This mine was operated for a time by Charles Hutchinson, under lease, and during that time William G. Payne* came here as the representative of the Consumers Coal Company. At the expiration of the lease with Mr. Hutchinson, the Consumers Coal Company resumed the operation of the mine, Mr. Payne being in charge as superintendent. Later he acquired the stock of the Consumers Coal Company and he and his son William T. Payne have managed and owned this operation.

Charles Hutchinson, after his connection ceased with the East Boston mine, leased in 1870 from Stephen B. Vaughn Sarah S. Bennet, and the Hughes Estate, their coal lands in the vicinity of Luzerne Borough; and sank the shaft, along the present Union Street, and erected the breaker, which was long known as the Black Diamond breaker. Mr. Hutchinson was an experienced mining man and came here from Nova Scotia. He was previously interested in mines at Shickshinny and Plymouth, and lived, during his residence here at the corner of Page and Main Streets in Kingston, in what was known as the old Hunlock house. He conducted a large company store in the building adjoining his residence, which is now owned by George Fagan, who has a grocery store there at present. Mr. Hutchinson failed and February 14, 1878, the mine was sold by the sheriff to Abram H. Reynolds, trustee for creditors, who conveyed it July 13th of the same year, to George B. Bonnell of Philadelphia, who operated it, in conjunction with James C. Hutchinson, a son of Charles Hutchinson, until February 20, 1882, when it was purchased by John C. Haddock and Charles F. Steele. Mr. Steele later retired from the firm and Mr. Haddock continued to operate it until his death, it being carried on by a corporation, which he organized and owned, known as the Plymouth Coal Company. Recently the mine was abandoned, and the breaker has been torn down.

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*WILLIAM G. PAYNE was born in Minersville, Pa., July 19, 1844. He married Ellen Roberts of Montreal, Canada. Mr Payne was very successful in his business enterprises, and acquired a large fortune. He resided during the greater portion of his life on Wyoming Avenue, Kingston.

Samuel Raub and J. C. Fuller started a small operation in the upper part of Luzerne Borough, and this they disposed of March 31, 1879 to Thomas Waddell and E. A. Packer. Mr. Waddell developed a successful mine, which he conducted until his death. It was later merged with the Raub Coal Company.

The Raub Coal Company Limited was formed by Andrew G. Raub, John E. Nugent, and Charles R. Marcy, August 14, 1891, and it acquired certain mining rights from the Raub Estate and J. C. Fuller. This operation was sold to a corporation known as the Raub Coal Company, which was formed August 11, 1897. The incorporators were: Andrew G. Raub, John E. Nugent, George H. Flanagan, C. R. Marcy, Joseph L. Cake, and C. C. Bowman. This corporation acquired the coal lands, along the mountain, and now conducts quite a large operation.

J. Henry Swoyer developed the coal lands, in what is now Swoyersville and Forty Fort Boroughs. He leased from the Shoemaker Estate, October 31, 1874, 475 acres, and under the name of the Forty Fort Coal Company, sank a shaft and erected a breaker. This mine began operations, June 17, 1876, and May 1, 1882, he conveyed the property to a corporation, which he had organized, known as the Wyoming Valley Coal Company, which was incorporated April 11, 1882, the incorporators being: T. H. Porter, S. A. Caldwell, William S. Hillard, Abram Nesbitt, John C. Phelps, John S. Law and J. H. Swoyer. In 1878, Charles Albright and George L. Dickson acquired coal lands in the lower part of Forty Fort and Swoyersville, and under the name of the Albright Coal Company made developments. This property passed into the possession of Mr. Swoyer and the Wyoming Valley Coal Company, the mine at Brodericks, known as the "Harry E. Colliery" being operated by Mr Swoyer. The Wyoming Valley Coal Company leased these operations, November 1, 1893 to Clarence D. Simpson, and Thomas H. Watkins, who operated them under the name of Simpson & Watkins, and the Forty Fort Coal Company, until about 1900, when they disposed of their interests to the Temple Coal and Iron Company.

In 1881, the estate of Rev. Thomas P. Hunt leased the coal land, above the Maltby breaker property to Edward L. Fuller and Robert W. Archbald, who organized the Fuller Coal Company, Limited, which sank a shaft and erected a breaker. This company failed and later the breaker was burned down. It was known as the "Fuller Mine", and also the "Hunt Mine".

On October 7, 1881, S. B. Vaughn, the Pettebones, and the Eleys leased their coal lands in what is now the upper part of Kingston Borough to the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Company, who later developed the property, which is known as the Pettebone mine.

The Wyoming Coal & Land Company was organized, July 16, 1894, by William Griffith, Thomas P. Macfarlane, H. C. Shaffer, James N. Rice, William D. Sinclair, N. E. Rice, and Frank H. Clemmons. This company acquired a tract of land in West Wyoming Borough, which it developed and operated until June 30, 1905, when it sold its interests to the Lehigh Valley Coal Company. It is now known as the Westmoreland Colliery.

The Mt. Lookout Coal Company, an organization formed by C. D. Simpson and Thomas H. Watkins developed the coal lands, in the upper part of Wyoming Borough, but the works were in Exeter.

The most important coal works operating within the limits of Kingston Township have been those of the Kingston Coal Company, a corporation, which was formed nearly thirty years, after the first Kingston Coal Company heretofore referred to, was organized. May 4, 1864, the heirs of Madison F. Myers leased to Isaac C. Waterman, Thomas Beaver, and David Morgan, a large tract of coal land in the lower part of Kingston. Messrs. Waterman and Beaver were iron manufacturers at Danville and needed the coal for their iron works. Mr. Morgan was an experienced coal man and was the first superintendent of the works. The mines were first operated by a partnership under the name of Waterman and Beaver; and this was continued, until June 25, 1877, when The Kingston Coal Company Limited was formed, composed of Isaac S. Waterman, Thomas Beaver, Daniel Edwards, and George F. Geisinger. The capital was $400,000. Daniel Edwards* became superintendent of the Waterman and Beaver Works, and due largely to his superior ability, it developed into a great and successful industry. More coal land was acquired and an additional breaker erected. The brick building, which had been the headquarters of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad, near the Kingston station, was purchased and became the general office of the coal company.

The Kingston Coal Company was incorporated August 8, 1883, the incorporators being: Thomas Beaver, Daniel Edwards, Theodore L. Newell, the Executors of the Estate of Isaac S. Waterman, (Clara W. Dwight, E. P. Dwight, and John C. Bullet), George F. Geisinger, E. S. Dwight, and John C. Bullet. The capital was $1,000,000. A mining hamlet known as Morgantown had grown up, along the road between Kingston and Plymouth Townships, and after the advent of Mr. Edwards, this settlement was known as Edwardsville. The Kingston Coal Company became one of the large producers of anthracite coal and one of the most prosperous concerns engaged in the business. The first president was Thomas Beaver and he was succeeded by Daniel Edwards, who continued, as such until his death.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The first bank organized, within the limits of the Certified Township of Kingston, was the Deposit & Savings Bank of Kingston, Pennsylvania, which was incorporated May 25, 1896. The capital was $50,000, and surplus $25,000. The first officers were: Hon. Daniel Edwards, President; T. L. Newell, Vice-President; W. E. Preston, Cashier; Dr. Frederic Corss, Secretary. Directors: Hon. Daniel Edwards, Hon. Morgan B. Williams, T. L. Newell, R. P. Brodhead, Dr. Frederic

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*Daniel Edwards, was born at Groeswen, Glamorganshire, South Wales, April 25, 1825, and came to the United States in 1856. Two years later he became superintendent of the iron mines at Danville, owned by Waterman and Beaver; and after they acquired the coal works at Kingston, came to that place where he continued to reside until his death. He became president of the Kingston Coal Company; was organizer and first president of the Kingston Deposit and Savings Bank, now the Kingston Bank and Trust Company; was a director of the Wilkes-Barre Hospital, and connected with many financial institutions. He was elected one of the Presidential Electors on the Republican ticket and always supported that party. Mr. Edwards was greatly interested in the Welsh Congregational Church of Edwardsville. He was one of the most prominent citizens of Luzerne County, and accumulated a large estate. He married, January 17, 1852, Margaret Edwards, also born in Wales, and was survived by three daughters: Mrs. Theodore L. Newell, Mrs. Bennett J. Cobleigh and Mrs. Walter C. Teter. Mr. Edwards died May 18, 1901.

Corss, George Shoemaker, A. G. Raub, Edwin H. Jones, S. L. Brown, E. W. Dwight, A. H. Vandling.

The bank began business in a three story bank building, which stood on Market Street, at the head of Page Street, and which had just been erected for the purposes of the bank by Daniel Edwards. A few months after it began business, Mr. Preston, the first cashier died, and Edward M. Rosser was elected to succeed him, and later became president, a position which he now holds. The name was changed to Kingston Bank & Trust Company, October 9, 1919; and the West Side Trust Company was merged with it August 22, 1927. The West Side Trust Company was incorporated, December 6, 1921, and began business with a capital of $125,000, and a surplus of $15,000. The old Central Hotel building was purchased and remodelled and this bank was very successful until the merger. Charles F. Hess was the cashier, during most of the time of its existence, and largely due to his ability and energy, its growth was phenomenal. The first officers were: E. M. Ellsworth, President; F. P. Oliver, Vice-President; N. C. Honeywell, Vice-President; W. H. Turrell, Treasurer, W. H. Cocking, Secretary; Donald O. Coughlin, Trust Officer. Directors: Rev. G. A. Bendick, John H. Bragg, Martin Baloga, Donald O. Coughlin, H. G. Cook, Jr., W. H. Cocking, E. M. Ellsworth, N. C. Honeywell, Louis N. Jacobs, William Harris, Louis Marinos, F. P. Oliver, J. L. Reynolds, Louis K. Salsburg, E. M. Tripp, Charles Wood, Ira M. Winters, E. C. Yaple, R. H. Young.

The next bank, to be organized, was the First National Bank of Wyoming, Pennsylvania, which was incorporated, December 13, 1906, with a capital of $50,000. The first officers were: William J. Fowler, President, George E. Dean, Cashier; Directors: C. H. Burgess, Charles E. Fowler, M. Kauffman, Giles E. Gay, Nathaniel G. Robertson, Ira Dewitt, James Eagen, William C. Baldwin, Jesse B. Schooley, and William J. Fowler. Mr. Dean resigned within a few years and Frank D. Cooper was chosen to succeed him. This bank does most of the business in the upper end of the township, and the back mountain country, tributary to Wyoming. It has been very successful, and its stock is now worth many times its par value.

The Luzerne National Bank of Luzerne, Pennsylvania was opened for business, November 19, 1907. The capital was $50,000, and surplus $10,000. It has been well conducted, its affairs being managed by capable and conservative men, since its organization. The first officers were: Calvin Perrin, President; W. J. Parry, Vice-President; G. M. Harris, Cashier; C. F. Schlingman, Teller. Directors: Calvin Perrin, Henry C. Johnson, Sherman P. Frantz, Ira T. Honeywell, F. W. Denniston, John B. Reynolds, William J. Frees, D. B. Good, F. N. Ruggles, Stephen Lukesh, W. J. Parry. W. J. Parry succeeded Mr. Perrin, and has been the president for many years.

The Merchants and Miners State Bank of Luzerne Borough was organized in July, 1923 with a capital of $50,000, and surplus of $5 000. The first officers were: G. Murray Roat, President; Ziba Schooley, First Vice President; W. V. Sullivan, Second Vice President; David Hottenstein, Secretary; Directors: G. Murray Roat, Ziba Schooley, W. V. Sullivan, David Hottenstein, Morris Reagan, Emil Freedman, Henry Sippel, J. H. Lare Frank Sgarlet, Morris Judkovics, Dominick Gurnari, Dr. J. W. Kirschner, Thomas McGough, John Lukesh, Joseph H. Finn, Joseph F. Ignatovic, and James Bryant. Cashier, C. F. Schlingman; present Cashier, H. F. Pringle.

The First National Bank of Kingston was incorporated April 26, 1926, with a capital of $100,000, and a surplus of $25,000. A fine bank building was erected on Wyoming Avenue, near Union Street, which was occupied in about a year, after the bank began business. The officers were: O. R. Mullison, President; and Harry R. Hay, Cashier, but Mr. Hay soon resigned and Robert E. Jones, the present cashier was elected to succeed him. The directors were: O. R. Mullison, E. G. Chapin, Dr. W. F. Davison, Chester A. Ide, George M. Hughey, Harry Scureman, Jonathan R. Davis, Edward E. Riley, Dr. H. A. Brown and John M. Miles.

The Forty Fort State Bank was organized May 1, 1926, and was opened for business March 19, 1927. The directors were: J. H. Doughty, R. H. Garrahan, A. T. Glahn, Dr. C. A. Judge, R. J. Kirkhuff, A. A. Killian, A. C. Knuckey, W. J. Phillips, Dr. D. G. Robinhold, E. M. Rosser, C. A. Sieminski, Dr. A. D. Thomas, and J. J. Williams. The cashier elected was H. B. Glidden.

CHAPTER XXIII.

LAND TITLES

The land of Kingston Township was divided as heretofore related, and the list which follows, begins with the owners of the original rights to the various lots in each division, and contains the names of their successors in title, to the time when the Commissioners under the Act of 1799, sat and determined to whom, under Connecticut title, the certificates should be issued. This list also contains the names of those to whom, the certificates were issued, and those to whom the patents were granted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. With few exceptions, the certificates were issued to those who proved their claims before the Commissioners, the exceptions being transferees between the time the testimony was closed and the certificates issued. From the time title was granted by the Commonwealth to the present, the conveyances are of record in Luzerne County.

This list is made up from the records of original drawings, by the Proprietors of Kingston Township; the conveyances, contained in the Westmoreland Records; the evidence taken before the Commissioners and transcribed by Judge Thomas Cooper, and the records in the Land Office. The names of those to whom the certificates and patents were issued were copied from the original records in the Land Office at Harrisburg by Mr. Harry Hines for Francis J. Murray, Esq., who has kindly loaned them for use in this publication. The various owners are given in consecutive order. The variance between the certificate holders and patentees is due to conveyances made before the patents were granted, and which are endorsed upon the certificates.

The list of the drawing of the Third Division is given in another chapter, and the original papers as follows are first set forth:

ORIGINAL PAPERS

"A list of Forty of Kingston, who drew rights 1770.

Zebulon Butler, Benjamin Follett, John Perkins by Stehpen Post, Benjamin Shoemaker, John McDowel, John Comstock

John Perkins by J. Crocker, Ezra Belding, Wm. Buck by A. Buck, Elijah Buck by A. Buck, Thomas Bennett, Parshall Terry, James Atherton, Timothy Pierce, Timothy Smith, Simeon Draper, Maj. J. Durkee, Richard Brockway, Elijah Shoemaker.

Added, A. D. 1771: Maj. Ezekiel Pierce, Abel Smith, Stephen Fuller, Thomas McClure, Robert Dixon, Ozeal Yale, Asa Gore, John Dougherty, Capt. Obadiah Gore, Stephen Yale, Joseph Sprague."

"A draught of house lots in Kingston.

Ezekiel Pierce, No. 29, Obadiah Gore No. 38, Ozias Yale No. 35, Ezra Belding No. 9, Thomas McClure No. 26, Wm. Buck No. 6; Phinias Pierce No. 10; Stephen Yale No. 12; Parshal Terry No. 25; Jonathan Dean No. 40; James Atherton No. 27; Capt. Butler No. 20; Stephen Fuller, Jr. No. 21; John Dorrance No. 37; Nathan Deuison No. 31; Asa Gore No. 36; Benj. Shoemaker No. 28; Capt. Butler No. 1; Capt. Buck No. 22; Capt. Follett No. 34; John Jenkins No. 14; John Comstock No. 23; Abel Pierce No. 24; Isaac Underwood No. 2; Thos. Dyer No. 4; Abel Smith No. 30; John Perkins No. 13; Elias Roberts No. 16; Timothy Smith No. 3; Timothy Pierce No. 8; John Perkins No. 5; Thomas Bennett No. 8; Peter Harris No. 15; Solomon Bennett No. 19; ———— Tripp No. 17; Curtis Spaulding No. 31; Robert Dixon No. 39; John McDowel No. 11; Simeon Draper No. 18."

FIRST DIVISION OR HOUSE LOTS

Lot No. 1. Zebulon Butler, drawn by: 2. Lord Butler, Zebulon Butler, Hannah Welles, Steuben Butler, Lydia Griffin, and Nancy Butler, heirs of Zebulon Butler, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to John Bennet, March 21, 1831, recorded in Patent Book H. 30, page 258, containing 1 acre, 117 perches.

Lot No. 2. Oliver Smith original proprietor: 2. Isaac Underwood, drawn by: 3. Benjamin Dorrance, to whom certificate was issued. Patent to John Bennet, March 21, 1831, recorded in Patent Book H. 30, page 258, containing 2 acres and 17 perches.

Lot No. 3. Timothy Smith original proprietor: 2. Benjamin Smith by inheritance, to whom certificate was issued. Patent to Jacob Stock, March 12, 1874, recorded in Patent Book H. 72, page 594, for 2 acres, 80 perches.

Lot No. 4. Thomas Dyer original proprietor: 2. Thomas Dyer, Jr, by Power of Attorney to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Henry H. Welles, February 21, 1874, recorded in Patent Book H. 72, page 557 for 2 acres, 141 perches.

Lot No. 5. Drawn by John Perkins: 2. Levi Hoyt to whom certificate was issued April 10, 1817 on Luzerne warrant No. 437. Patent to Levi Hoyt, May 26, 1817, recorded in Patent Book H. 14, page 524 for 3 acres, 42 perches.

Lot No. 6. Drawn by William Buck: 2. Certificate to Derrick Bird, on Luzerne Warrant, No. 558, dated April 23, 1818. Patent to John G. Fell, March 9, 1841, recorded in Patent Book H. 42 page 366 for 3 acres, 104 perches.

Lot No. 7. Isaac Tripp, original proprietor: 2. William Gallup by deed January 19, 1774; 3. Obadiah Gore by deed November 25, 1774; 4. Heirs of Obadiah Gore; 5. John Gore; 6. Lawrence Myers by deed August 26, 1801, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Lawrence Myers December 5, 1809, recorded in Patent Book H. 1, page 750, for 4 acres, 18 perches.

Lot No. 8. Drawn by Timothy Peirce or Thomas Bennet; 2. Jedidiah Stevens; 3. Aholiab Buck by deed May 9, 1778; 4. Lucretia Buck, widow and Deborah Taylor only heir of Aholiab Buck; 5. John Taylor, right of dower by deed of Justus Gaylord and Lucretia Buck Gaylord, October 7, 1796; 6. Lord Butler by deed of John and Deborah Taylor, August 27, 1796, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to John G. Fell, March 9, 1841, recorded in Patent Book H. 42, page 363, for 4 acres and 86 perches.

Lot No. 9. Drawn by Ezra Belding; 2. Warranted to Christopher VanBuskark on Luzerne Warrant No. 559, dated April 23, 1818. Patent to John G. Fell, March 9, 1841, recorded in Patent Book H. 42, page 360, for 4 acres 116 perches.

Lot No. 10. Drawn by Phineas Peirce; 2. Obadiah Gore by deed November 25, 1772; 3. Heirs of Obadiah Gore; 4. John Gore to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to John G. Fell, March 9, 1841, recorded in Patent Book H. 42, page 363 for 4 acres 118 perches.

Lot No. 11. Allen Wightman probably original proprietor; 2. Drawn by John McDowell; 3. Heirs of John McDowell; 4. Philip Jackson for 8/10 interest by deeds of Jacob and Elizabeth Stroud, September 14, 1796; Laban and J. Blanchard, June 25, 1790; Daniel McDowell, December 3, 1789; Abraham and Winty Miller, April 8, 1791; Daniel and Ann Shoemaker, December 15, 1796; Robert McDowell, September 26, 1788; certificate issued to Philip Jackson; 4. Elijah Shoemaker a 2/10 interest by deeds of John Shaw and Richard Shaw who married daughters of John McDowell, November 1, 1802, certificate issued to Elijah Shoemaker. Patent to John M. Culver, Executor of William Culver, October 18, 1873, recorded in Patent Book H. 72, page 314 for 4 acres, 118 perches. A 2/10 interest is not patented.

Lot No. 12. Job Yale original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Stephen Yale; 3. Elias Roberts by deed September 29, 1774; 4. Peter Tift, one acre by deed July 19, 1777; 5. John Peirce, 1 acre; 6. Parshall Terry 1 acre; 7. Elikiam Roberts, 1 acre; 8. John P. Schott, 1 acre by deed April 8, 1790, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799; 4. Joel Enos; 5. Philip Myers by deed of Enos April 2, 1787, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to John M. Culver, Executor of William Culver, October 18, 1873, recorded in Patent Book, H. 72, page 313, for 3 acres, 18 perches, certified to Philip Myers. Patent to John M. Culver, Executor of William Culver, October 18, 1873, recorded in Patent Book, H. 72, page 315, for 1 acre certified to John P. Schott.

Lot No. 13. Original right held by Joshua Hall; 2. Drawn by John Perkins; 3. David Perkins, by deed of Benjamin Carpenter, Administrator of the Estate of John Perkins, March 6, 1791; 4. William Ross, by deed August 23, 1796; 5. George Chahoon, by deed August 10, 1801, to whom the certificate was issued. Patent to L. Myers and J. G. Stout, November 1, 1872, recorded in Patent Book H. 70, page 518, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 14. John Perkins original proprietor; 2. Elisha Swift by deed July 20, 1772; 3. Samuel Allen by deed of Nathaniel Landon, administrator of Elisha Swift, February 28, 1792; 4. Nathaniel Landon by deed February 28, 1792, to whom the certificate was issued. Patent to L. Myers and J. G. Stout, November 1, 1872, recorded in Patent Book H. 70, page 519, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 15. Peter Harris, original proprietor; 2. Elijah Harris, by will of his father Peter Harris; 3. John Hagerman by deed March 3, 1792; 4. Benjamin Carpenter, attorney in fact of Jeremiah Hagerman, to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Philip Myers, March 21, 1820, recorded in Patent Book, H. 17, page 320 for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 16. Elias Roberts, original proprietor; 2. Timothy Rose, by deed January 20, 1773; 3. Ebenezer Bowman by deed July 16, 1799, to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Philip Myers, March 21, 1820. Recorded in Patent Book H. 17, page 320, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 17. Timothy Peirce, original proprietor; 2. Drawn by ——— Tripp; 3. Timothy Rose by deed January 14, 1773; 4. Ebenezer Bowman by deed of Nancy Rose, administrator, August 31, 1789; 5. Lord Butler by deed July 16, 1799, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Philip Myers, March 21, 1820, recorded in Patent Book H. 17, page 320, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 18. Simeon Draper, original proprietor; 2. Philip Myers by deed of Amos Draper, September 26, 1778; deed of Joseph Draper, Phebe Moore, Benjamin Albro and Catherine Wright, January 1, 1801, all heirs of Simeon Draper. Certificate to Philip Myers, under Act of 1799. Patent to Philip Myers, March 7, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 468, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 19. Thomas Bennet, probably owner of original right; 2. Drawn by Solomon Bennet; 3. William Branson by deed, March 23, 1787; 4. Philip Myers by deed July 16, 1787 to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Philip Myers, March 7, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5 page 468 for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 20. Drawn by Zebulon Butler; 2. Richard Brockway by deed July 30, 1772; 3. Isaac Smith by deed August 20, 1773; 4. James Sutton by deed April 18, 1774; 5. Lemuel Gustine by deed February 5, 1778 to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Philip Myers, March 19, 1817, recorded in Patent Book H. 14, Page 319 for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 21. Vine Elderkin probably original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Stephen Fuller; 3. John Murphy by occupancy prior to Indian Battle, according to testimony of Daniel Gore; 4. Lemuel Gustine by deed of John Murphy, April 15, 1778; 5. Daniel Gore by deed October 4, 1788 in trust for heirs of John Murphy; 6. Matthias Hollenback by deed of Obadiah Gore, administrator of Murphy, April 25, 1803, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to John G. Fell, March 9, 1841, recorded in Patent Book H. 42, page 363, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 22. Drawn by Asahel Buck; 2. John Comstock; 3. William H. Smith by deed November 2, 1773; 4. John Smith by deed February 1, 1775; 5. William H. Smith, by deed October 22, 1787; 6. Martin Smith by deed October 5, 1792, and affidavit of W. H. Smith that while Nos. 23 and 24 are mentioned in deed, No. 22 was intended; 7. Philip Jackson by deed April 30, 1799 to whom the certificate as issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Isaac Tripp, John S. Jackson, John S. Pettebone, Adam Heisz, Sarah Poole late Rinker, Charles VanBuskark, James Space, Jeremiah VanBuskark, January 6, 1874, recorded in Patent Book H. 72, page 459 for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 23. John Comstock original proprietor; 2. Abel Peirce; 3. Lebbeus Tubbs by deed February 20, 1773; William H. Smith by deed November 19, 1773; 5. Martin Smith by deed October 5, 1792; 6. Benjamin Knapp by deed October 16, 1793; 7. Peter Shaffer by deed December 17, 1800 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Shaffer applied for lot No. 32. This lot contains 4 acres, 118 perches and is unpatented.

Lot No. 24. Drawn by Abel Peirce; 2. Lebbeus Tubbs by deed February 20, 1772; 3. Israel Walker; 4. Lemuel Gustine, by deed March 10, 1778, to whom certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Philip Myers, March 24, 1823, recorded in Patent Book H. 21 page 49, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 25. Benajah Pendleton owner of original right; 2. Drawn by Parshall Terry; 3. Elijah Harris by deed August 6, 1779; 4. John Wort by deed October 6, 1789; 5. David Perkins by deed December 22, 1792; 6. Timothy Morris by deed October 15, 1793; 7. Isaac D. Tripp, by deed August 9, 1795, to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Malachi Shoemaker June 7, 1805, recorded in Patent Book P. 57, page 134, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 26. Drawn by Thomas McClure; 2. Ezekiel Peirce by deed, May 26, 1774; 3. Winchester Mathewson by deed October 9, 1774; 4. Elisha Mathewson by order of Orphans Court; 5. Malachi Shoemaker by deed November 20, 1802; 6. John Horton by deed January 20, 1804; 7. Malachi Shoemaker by deed January 20, 1804, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Malachi Shoemaker June 7, 1805, recorded in Patent Book P. 57, Page 134, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 27. Drawn by James Atherton; 2. Peleg Comstock; 3. C. G. Oehmig by deeds, lost and proved by affidavit; 4. Laban Blanchard, by deed December 4, 1792; 5. Daniel Shoemaker by deed January 24, 1795; 6. Elijah Shoemaker by deed May 10, 1800, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597.

Lot No. 28. Benjamin Shoemaker original proprietor; 2. Peleg Comstock; 3. C. G. Oehmig; 4. Laban Blanchard by deed December 4, 1792; 5. Daniel Shoemaker by deed June 24, 1795; 6. Elijah Shoemaker by deed May 10, 1800, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597.

Lot No. 29. Drawn by Ezekiel Peirce; 2. Samuel Cummings by deed August 10, 1773; 3. Samuel Gordon by deed June 17, 1775; 4. Elijah Shoemaker Sr., by deed April 12, 1777; 5. Elijah Shoemaker by inheritance, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799; Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H 7, page 597.

Lot No. 30. Drawn by Abel Smith; 2. Perrin Ross, by deed October 30, 1772; 3. Aholiab Buck by deed November 18, 1772; 4. Samuel Cummings by deed September 10, 1773; 5. Samuel Gordon by deed June 17, 1775; 6. Elijah Shoemaker, Sr., by deed April 12, 1777; 7. Elijah Shoemaker by inheritance, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7., page 597.

Lot No. 31. Nathan Denison original proprietor; 2. Elias Church, by deed February 17, 1775; 3. Eben Hatch by deed April 12, 1775; 4. Joseph Washburn by attachment, May 25, 1775; 5. Jacob Enos, certificate filed; 6. James Atherton by deed August 7, 1786; 7. Peleg Comstock, by certificate 8. John P. Schott by deed October 26, 1789; Certified to Elijah Shoemaker under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597, which included lots, Nos. 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, containing 23 acres, 110 perches.

Lot No. 32. Richard Brockway, probably original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Curtis or Denison Spaulding; 3. Rufus Shepherd, by deed August 12, 1780; 4. John Allen, Westmoreland Records No. 3, page 527: 5. Benjamin Allen by deed February 6, 1800; 6. Peter Shaffer by deed March 14, 1801, also quit claim by Thomas Dyer July 2, 1802. Certificate to Shaffer under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597 for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 33. Zerubabel Jearums, original proprietor; 2. Nathan Denison by deed October 21, 1774 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597, for 4 acres, 118 perches.

Lot No. 34. Benjamin Follett, original proprietor; 2. Frederick Follett, by inheritance and partition; 3. Ebenezer Parrish by deed April 1, 1793; 4. Joel Farnham by deed June 8, 1793; 5. Daniel Barney by deed August 10, 1795; 6. Philip Myers by deed April 8, 1801; 7. Elijah Shoemaker by deed March 23, 1803. to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597.

Lot No. 35. Benjamin Yale original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Ozias Yale; 3. Justus Gaylord, Westmoreland Records 622-623; 4. Thomas Wighton, son-in-law of Gaylord; 5. Oliver Parrish by deed July 13, 1792; 6. Thomas Wright by attachment vs. Parrish, November 29, 1794; 6. Elijah Shoemaker by deed March 20, 1801, to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597.

Lot No. 36. Original right owned by Reuben Davis; 2. Drawn by Asa Gore; 3 Joseph Hamilton, deposition of Nathaniel Landon, that Hamilton lived on this lot and went away after the battle; 4. Walter Hamilton by inheritance; 5. Laban Blanchard by deed June 6, 1794; 6. Elijah Shoemaker by deed November 21, 1794, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker. November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597, including lots 34 and 35 containing 10 acres, 44 perches.

Lot No. 37. Drawn by John Dorrance; 2. Certified to Elijah Shoemaker under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597 for 2 acres, 14 perches.

Lot No. 38. Drawn by Obadiah Gore; 2. Heirs of Obadiah Gore; 3. John Gore by deed, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Lawrence Myers and Frederick Winters, February 12, 1874, recorded in Patent Book H. 72 page 531.

Lot No. 39. Drawn by Robert Dixon; 2. Edward Lester by deed November 6, 1772; 3. Obadiah Gore by deed November 26, 1772; 4. Heirs of Obadiah Gore; 5. John Gore, by deed to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Lawrence Myers and Frederick Winters, February 12, 1874 recorded in Patent Book H. 72, page 531.

Lot No. 40. Owner of original right Jonathan Dean; 2. Obadiah Gore by deed November 26, 1772; 3. Heirs of Obadiah Gore; 4. John Gore to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Lawrence Myers and Frederick Winters, February 12, 1874, recorded in Patent Book H. 72, page 531 including lots, Nos. 38 and 39, for 12 acres and 10 perches.

SECOND DIVISION OR MEADOW LOTS

Lot No. 1. Joshua Hall original proprietor; 2. Drawn by John Perkins, who had a deed from Hall dated April 16, 1770; 3. David Perkins, by deed of Benjamin Carpenter, Administrator of John Perkins, dated March 26, 1791; and certificate to David Perkins under Act of 1799; Patent to David Perkins, October 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 2, page 564, for lots Nos. 1 and 2, containing 103 acres, 89 perches.

Lot No. 2. Benajah Pendleton or Nathan Walsworth original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Abel Peirce; 3. Lebbeus Tubbs by deed February 20, 1773, Westmoreland Records 1000; 4 Daniel Finch by deed June 23, 1777 (Westmoreland Records 778); 5. David Perkins by deed of Samuel Finch Administrator June 30, 1790, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to David Perkins, October 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book, H. 2, page 564, for lots Nos. 1 and 2 containing 103 acres, 89 perches.

Lot No. 3. Henry Dow Tripp original proprietor; 2. Elisha Swift; 3. John McDowell by deed November 23, 1773; 4. Heirs of John McDowell; 5. Philip Jackson by deeds of Jacob and Elizabeth Stroud September 14, 1796; Laban and Jane Blanchard, January 25, 1790; Daniel McDowell, December 3, 1789; Abraham and Winty Miller April 8, 1791; Daniel and

Ann Shoemaker December 15, 1796; Robert McDowell, September 26, 1788 for 2/10; Mrs. Philip Jackson by inheritance 1/10. An 8/10 interest certified to Philip Jackson under the Act of 1799; 5. Elijah Shoemaker by deed of Richard and Mary Shaw and John and Hannah Shaw, daughters of McDowell, November 1, 1802 for 2/10 to whom certificate was issued for 2/10 under Act of 1799; 6. John Barber one acre adjoining highway, by deed of Philip Jackson April 9, 1801. Patent to Fisher Gay, November 23, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 350 for 45 acres, 96 perches.

Lot No. 4. Stephen Jenkins original proprietor; 2. Ira Stephens; 3. Simon Miller by deed September 20, 1778; 3. Philip Jackson by deed May 17, 1790, to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Christian G. Oehmig, May 18, 1816, recorded in Patent Book H. 14, page 85, for 36 acres, 113 perches.

Lot No. 5. Drawn by John Perkins; 2. Samuel Finch by deed of Benjamin Carpenter, Administrator; 3. Josiah Hazard by deed; 4. Luke Swetland, by deed of William Slocum, sheriff, November 18, 1796; 5. Belding Swetland by deed January 12, 1804, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Belding Swetland, November 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 609 for 34 acres, 44 perches.

Lot No. 6. Drawn by Zebulon Butler; 2. Richard Brockway by deed July 3, 1773, (West. Rec. 1131); 3. William Slocum by deed April 2, 1789; 4. William Satherwaite by deed January 21, 1793; 5. Philip Jackson by deed March 6, 1794; 6. Elijah Shoemaker by deed July 22, 1800 to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, October 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 541 for 33 acres, 22 perches.

Lot No. 7. Timothy Smith original proprietor; 2. Benjamin Smith by inheritance to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Benjamin Smith, December 22, 1814 for 37 acres, 152 perches.

Lot No. 8. Richard Brockway original proprietor; 2. Curtis Spaulding; 3. Dennis Spaulding by gift; 4. Rufus Shepherd by deed July 28, 1781; 5. John Allen by deed October 24, 1795; 6. Elisha Atherton by deed April 14, 1800; 7. James Atherton by deed April 24, 1801, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Elisha Atherton November 2, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 593, for 35 acres, 87 perches.

Lot No. 9. Zerubabel Jearums original proprietor; 2. Nathan Denison, south half by deed October 21, 1774, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799; 2. Thomas Stoddard, north half by purchase and occupancy, lived on it before Indian Battle, according to affidavit of Nathan Denison; 3. Abraham Van Gorder by deed January 17, 1791, for north half; 4. Hallet Gallup by deed March 25, 1797, for north half; 5. Aaron Dean by deed April 1, 1798, for north half, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Lazarus Denison October 27, 1812, Patent Book H. 8, page 253 for north half containing 20 acres, 1 perch. Patent to Lazarus Denison October 27, 1812, Patent Book H. 8, page 253 for part of lots Nos. 9 and 10, containing 38 acres, 124.5 perches.

Lot No. 10. Timothy Peirce original proprietor; 2. Nathan Denison by deed July 15, 1772, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799 for ½ of lot; 3. Henry Tuttle by deed of N. Denison June 13, 1789 for ½ of lot, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Lazarus Denison, October 27, 1812, Patent Book H. 8, page 253, part of lots 9 and 10 containing 38 acres, 124.5 perches, being the ½ certified to Nathan Denison. Patent to Henry Tuttle, February 13, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 289 of ½ of lot No. 11, containing 57 acres, 60.5 perches.

Lot No. 11. Ezra Belding original proprietor; 2. Heirs of Ezra Belding; 3. Gideon Roberts by deed of Leonard and Jonathan Belding, June 24, 1789. 4. Eliakim Roberts by deed September 30, 1790; 5. Henry Tuttle by deed May 20, 1791 to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799. Patent to Henry Tuttle under same patent as part of No. 10.

Lot No. 12. Thomas Dyer original proprietor; 2. Thomas Dyer, Jr. by deed; 3. Elijah Shoemaker by deed August 8, 1801 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and to whom the patent was issued October 28, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 255 for 36 acres, 55 perches.

Lot No. 13. Thomas Bennet original proprietor; 2. Andrew Bennet to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, October 28, 1812 recorded in Patent Book, H. 8, page 255 for 36 acres, 44 perches.

Lot No. 14. Jonathan Dean, original proprietor; 2. Elijah Shoemaker, Sr. by deed October 19, 1774; 4. Elijah Shoemaker, Jr., by inheritance to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Elijah Shoemaker November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597, for 36 acres, 39 perches.

Lot No. 15. Benjamin Shoemaker original proprietor; 2. Elijah Shoemaker ½ by inheritance, Daniel Shoemaker ½ by inheritance; 3. Elijah Shoemaker by deed of Daniel Shoemaker ½, May 10, 1800, to whom the certificate for the whole lot was issued and patent to him November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597 for 27 acres, 122 perches.

Lot No. 16. John Comstock original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Peleg Comstock; 3. Laban Blanchard by deed January 23, 1790; 4. Daniel Shoemaker by deed November 21, 1794; Elijah Shoemaker by deed May 10, 1800 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent to him November 18, 1812 recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 597 for 20 acres, 123 perches.

Lot No. 17. Peter Harris original proprietor; 2. Abigail Harris by will to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent to her March 16, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 4, page 572 for lots Nos. 17 and 18 containing 117 acres, 144 perches.

Lot No. 18. Timothy Smith original proprietor; 2. Elias Roberts by deed; 3. Peter Harris by deed January 20, 1773; 4. Abigail Harris by will (Probate Records 49) to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent to her in same patent as lot No. 17.

Lot No. 19. Benajah Pendleton or Nathan Walsworth original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Parshall Terry; 3. Oliver Bigelow by deed July 11, 1792 to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Oliver Pettebone, October 31, 1812, recorded in Patent Book, H. 7, page 578 for 53 acres, 30 perches.

Lot No. 20. Drawn by Obadiah Gore; 2. John Gore by deed of heirs to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent to him February 18, 1812 recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 30 lots Nos. 20 and 21 containing 53 acres and 118 perches.

Lot No 21. John Jenkins original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Elisha Swift; 3. David Thayer by deed March 23, 1774, (West Records 1345); 4. Phineas Peirce 5 acres by deed (West Recs. 1357); 5. Obadiah Gore by deed July 27, 1774; 6. John Gore to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799 and patent to him in same patent as Lot No. 20; 3. George Dorrance by deed of Swift, February 23, 1776 for a portion of this lot; 4. Heirs of George Dorrance; 5. Oliver Pettebone by deeds of Benjamin Dorrance, March 20, 1794 and Gershom and Polly Dorrance, October 4, 1803. Certificate to Oliver Pettebone under Act of 1799, and patent to him March 5, 1811, recorded in Patent Book, H. 5, page 460 containing 35 acres, 122 perches.

Lot No. 22. Elijah Buck, original proprietor; 2. Asahel Buck; 3. Noah Pettebone by deed July 5, 1773 (West Recs. 1176); 4. Prince Bryant by deed June 30, 1781, (West Recs. Vol. 4, page 42); 5. Oliver Pettebone by deed of Lord Butler, Sheriff, November 29, 1789 at suit of Noah Pettebone vs. Prince Bryant. The certificate was issued to Oliver Pettebone under Act of 1799, and patent was issued to him March 6, 1811, recorded in Patent Book, H. 5, page 460 for 41 acres, 66 perches.

Lot No. 23. Benjamin Yale original proprietor; 2. Ozias Yale by quit claim October 17, 1778; 3. Lord Butler by deed of Andrew and Jemima Wortman Administrators of Ozias Yale December 18, 1789; 4. Benjamin Dorrance by deed May 13, 1796 to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent to him of his part May 16, 1806 recorded in Patent Book, P. 60, page 4; 2. Justus Gaylord by deed May 19, 1774, for consideration of doing duty (West Recs. 622) of 10 acres of the west end of lot No. 23; 3. Elisha Roberts by deed January 27, 1777 (West Recs. 800); 4. Peter Tift by deed July 1777; 5. Henry Decker by deed of John Pierce Administrator May 31, 1788; 6. Israel Underwood by deed December 2, 1788 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Benjamin Dorrance of part of lots Nos. 23 and 24 containing 21 acres, 56 perches.

Lot No. 24. Oliver Smith original proprietor; 2. Israel Underwood drawn by; 3. George Dorrance by deed August 30, 1773; 3. Elisha Drake by partition of estate of George Dorrance, only a part of this lot; 4. Gideon Church by deed of Benjamin Dorrance March 3, 1791; 5. Elisha Drake by deed of Church, June 8, 1792; 6. Israel Underwood by deed January 2, 1793 to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799 for 21 acres. Patent issued to Benjamin Dorrance October 16, 1812 recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 560 for 21 acres, 56 perches. Patent issued to Benjamin Dorrance of his part May 16, 1806, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 4.

Lot No. 25. Nathan Denison original proprietor; 2. John Dorrance by deed; 3. Benjamin Dorrance to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799; and patent to him May 16, 1806. Patent Book P. 60 page 4 of tract called Syracuse, including lots Nos. 25 and 26 and parts of lots Nos. 23 and 24, containing 144 acres, 23 perches.

Lot No. 26. Drawn by Stephen Fuller; 2. Perrin Ross; 3. Aholiab Buck, by deed November 18, 1772; 4. Benjamin Follett by exchange; 5. Frederick Follett by partition of estate; 6. Ebenezer Parrish by deed March 30, 1793; 7. Joshua and Benajah Fuller by deed April 4, 1793; 8. Benjamin Dorrance by deed March 28, 1796, to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent to him in same patent as lot No. 25.

Lot No. 27. Benjamin Follett original proprietor; 2. Aholiab Buck by exchange; 3. Lord Butler by deed of Justus and Lucretia Gaylord, late Buck widow of Aholiab Buck, October 7, 1796, and John and Deborah Taylor only child, August 27, 1796. Certificate issued to Lord Butler under Act of 1799, and patent issued to him December 20, 1809, recorded in Patent Book H. 1, page 760, including lots Nos. 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 containing 248 acres, 95 perches.

Lot No. 28. Drawn by John Dorrance; 2. Timothy Peirce by deed; 3. William Buck by deed August 27, 1772; 4. Lord Butler by deed September 29, 1787, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent granted to him (See under No. 27).

Lot No. 29. Zebulon Butler original proprietor; Lord Butler by deed October 4, 1786, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent granted him (See under No. 27).

Lot No. 30. Drawn by Phineas Peirce; 2. Stephen Fuller by deed (West Recs. 261); 3. Sarah Abbott widow of Stephen Fuller and Polly Griffin only child; 4. Daniel Hoyt by deed of Asa and Sarah Abbott, and Ebenezer and Polly Griffin, June 4, 1797; 5. Lord Butler by deed August 3, 1803 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent granted him. (See under No. 27).

Lot No. 31. Job Yale original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Stephen Yale; 3. Elias Roberts by deed September 29, 1774; 4. Peter Tift by deed July 19, 1777; 5. Asahel Buck by deed April 16, 1778; 6. William Trucks by deed of Daniel and Parmelia Ayers, she being the only heir; 7. Lord Butler by deed April 22, 1803 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent granted him. (See under No. 27).

Lot No. 32. Drawn by Stephen Fuller; 2. Phineas Peirce by exchange; 3. William Southerward by deed June 19, 1777; 4. John Peirce by deed April 16, 1778; 5. Abel Peirce by deed June 2, 1778. Certified to Lord Butler whose wife was a daughter of Abel Peirce under Act of 1799 and patent granted him. (See under No. 27).

Lot No. 33. Ezekiel Peirce original proprietor; 2. Lord Butler by deed of Abel Peirce, administrator, containing 12 acres, May 6, 1799; 2. John Peirce by deed May 8, 1775; 3. Timothy Peirce by deed December 24, 1776; 4. Thomas Duane who married widow of Timothy Peirce, 6 and ⅞ acres by partition and deed of Clarissa Peirce and certificate to him; 4. Polly Peirce by partition, 19 acres and certificate to Lord Butler under Act of 1799 and patent granted him. (See under No. 27). Patent to Matthias Hollenback, March 19, 1814. (See under No. 34).

Lot No. 34. William Buck original proprietor; 2. Timothy Peirce by deed October 22, 1772; 3. Thomas Duane to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799 for 20 acres 96 perches; 3. Polly Peirce to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799 for a part of lot. Patent to Matthias Hollenback March 19, 1814, recorded in Patent Book, H. 10, page 402, containing 20 acres, 103 perches.

Lot No. 35. Simeon Draper original proprietor; 2. Amos Draper; 3. Thomas Drake; 4. Daniel Cook and Thomas Duane by deed March 10, 1795, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to devisees of Daniel Cook an undivided one half March 12, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H. 10, page 487. Patent to Matthias Hollenback one half March 12, 1814, Patent Book H. 10, page 481 containing 38 acres, 156 perches.

Lot No. 36. Thomas McClure original proprietor; 2. Ezekiel Peirce by deed May 26, 1774; 3. Winchester Matthewson by deed October 19, 1774; 4. Elijah Matthewson by partition; 5. Thomas Duane by deed November 16, 1799 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799; Patent to Matthias Hollenback, March 17, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H. 10, page 352, lots 36 and 37, containing 77 acres, 152 perches.

Lot No. 37. Reuben Davis original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Asa Gore; 3. Thomas Duane by deed November 21, 1799 to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799. Patent to Matthias Hollenback. (See under No. 36).

Lot No. 38. Drawn by Robert Dixon; 2. Edward Lester by deed November 6, 1773; 3. Nathaniel Landon by deed June 28, 1773; 4. Abel Yarrington; 5. William Tidd by deed November 11, 1791; 6. Ebenezer Bowman and Jesse Fell by deed May 15, 1794; 7. Ebenezer Bowman by deed of Fell, October 8, 1795. Certificate to Bowman under Act of 1799 and patent to him March 6, 1816 recorded in Patent Book, H. 14, page 65 part of lots 38, 39 and 40, containing 10 acres, 19 perches. Patent to Daniel Hoyt, December 13, 1815, recorded in Patent Book, H. 12, page 150, part of Lot 38 certified to Nathaniel Landon, containing 37 acres, 41 perches.

Lot No. 39. Isaac Tripp original proprietor; 2. William Gallup by purchase, and certificate issued to him under act of 1799, and patent granted him November 24, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 356, part of lot No. 39, containing 30 acres, 95 perches. Small part of this patented to Ebenezer Bowman. (See under No. 38).

Lot No. 40. Drawn by James Atherton; 2. James Atherton, Jr. by deed October 19, 1798 for 12½ acres; 3. Aaron Roberts by deed October 27, 1801; 2. Elisha Atherton by deed October 19, 1798 for one half of this lot to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent for this portion was issued to Abiel Abbott February 17, 1835. Patent Book H. 33, page 303, for 18 acres, 48 perches; 3. Abel Yarrington by deed of James Atherton, February 16, 1789, for one acre which under same conveyances recited under No. 38 became vested in Ebenezer Bowman to whom the patent was issued as recited therein. A certificate for 4 acres, 146 perches was issued to Elisha

Atherton and the patent for this was granted to William Roughsedge, April 8, 1873, recorded in Patent Book H. page 646. A patent was granted to Aaron Roberts of the portion certified to him May 22, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 194 for 12 acres, 72 perches.

THIRD DIVISION OR BACK LOTS

Lot No. 1. Ezra Belding original proprietor; 2. Leonard and Jonathan Belding by inheritance; 3. Gideon Roberts by deed June 24, 1788; 4. Darius Williams by deed May 12, 1792; 5. John Peirce by deed for two parts; 5. Hallet Gallup by deed November 19, 1789 for 8 acres; 5. Christian G. Oehmig by deed October 15, 1792 for 9 acres; 5. Arthur Eicke by purchase 3 acres; 6. Christian G. Oehmig by deed April 1, 1797 of Eicke the 3 acres purchased by him, certified to Oehmig under the Act of 1799, and patent granted to Miner Roberts February 25, 1853, recorded in Patent Book, H. 49, page 397, containing 3 acres, 31 perches; 5. Bronadius Denmark by deed April 1, 1793 for 6 acres; 6. William Durmead; 7. Daniel Spencer by deed September 11, 1793; 8. Sale Roberts by deed November 1, 1797; 9. Aaron Dean by deed of Sale and Hezekiah Roberts, November 25, 1799. This was certified to Aaron Dean and was patented to John Murphy, October 27, 1812, Patent Book H 8, page 335, containing 6 acres, 18 perches. A certificate was issued to Hallet Gallup, and a patent granted to Henry Buckingham and George Chahoon, March 18, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 6, page 14 for 9 acres, 79 perches. A patent was issued to Aaron Roberts, April 7, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 666 for the part certified to Christian G. Oehmig, containing 8 acres and 145 perches. A patent was granted to Polly Rice, May 13, 1890 recorded in Patent Book H. 74, page 759, the part certified to John Peirce, containing 11 acres, 34 perches. A patent was granted to Elias Hoyt, May 6, 1852 recorded in Patent Book H. 49, page 83, the other part certified to John Peirce. A certificate was issued to Sarah Grubb for 6 acres, and the patent was issued to Daniel Boyer, April 17, 1813, recorded in Patent Book H. 9, page 343 for 6 acres, 33 perches.

Lot No. 2. Isaac Tripp, original proprietor; 2. William Gallup by purchase, to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799, and patent granted to his heirs November 24, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 356 for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 3. Simeon Draper original proprietor; 2. Heirs of Simeon Draper; 3. Lawrence Myers by deeds; Amos Draper and Catherine Harry, May 18, 1789, Amos Draper September 26, 1787 for 2 acres, Phebe Moore, May 26, 1801, Andrew Simbox and wife, June 24, 1801, John Wightman, attorney for Benjamin and Eleanor Albro and Catherine Wright, January 1, 1801. Certified to Lawrence Myers under Act of 1799, and patent granted to him May 25, 1805, recorded in Patent Book P. 57, page 97, called Myers Delight, containing 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 4. Jonathan Dean, original proprietor. 2. Elijah Shoemaker by purchase in 1774 or 1775; 3. Proprietors of Kingston Township by exchange; 4. Lawrence Myers by exchange by vote of Town Meeting, December 18, 1790, and certificate issued to him under Act of 1799; patent being granted to him May 20, 1805 recorded in Patent Book P. 57, page 97 for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 5. Zerubabel Jearums original proprietor; 2. Thomas Stoddard; 3. Asa Gore by deed June 26, 1773; 4. Lawrence Myers by deed; 5. Proprietors of Kingston Township by exchange December 18, 1790; 6. Daniel Hoyt by William Trucks, Oliver Pettebone, Benjamin Carpenter, Daniel Hoyt, Township Committee, April 3, 1800, by vote of Town Meeting, December 28, 1799; lease for 999 years. This was certified to Daniel Hoyt under Act of 1799, and patent was granted to him March 29, 1806, recorded in Patent Book P. 56, page 478 for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 6. Timothy Peirce original proprietor; 2. Peter Tift by deed March 16, 1778; 3. Rosewell Wells in trust for Elisha Mathewson Administrator of Nero Mathewson; 4. Arnold Colt by deed of Elisha Mathewson, March 30, 1790; 5. Lawrence Myers by deed June 30, 1791; 6. Joshua and Benajah Fuller by deed March 20, 1793; 7. Daniel Hoyt by deed March, 1797; to whom the certificate was issued under Act of 1799, and patent granted to him March 29, 1806, recorded in Patent Book P. 56, page 478, for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 7. Drawn by Andrew Metcalf; 2. Ezekiel Peirce; 3. Daniel Peirce by deed August 5, 1775, one half of this lot; 3. John Peirce by deed May 8, 1775, for one half; 4. Peter Tift by deed of John Peirce, March 16, 1778, and deed of Daniel Peirce, March 29, 1778; 6. Rosewell Wells by deed of administrator of Peter Tift May 24, 1788; 7. Arthur Eicke by deed July 15, 1791; 8. Elisha Atherton by deed July 15, 1791, excepting 4 acres; 7. John Kelly by purchase 4 acres; 8. Malachi Labar by deed February 17, 1789, 4 acres; 9. Aaron Roberts by deed July 14, 1795; 10. Elisha Atherton by deed May 7, 1797, 4 acres. The certificate for the whole lot was issued to Elisha Atherton and the patent was granted to him October 26, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 564 for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 8. Thomas Bennet original proprietor; 2. William Buck by deed January 22, 1773; 3. Elias Roberts by deed October 22, 1774; 4. Peter Tift by deed July 19, 1777; 5. Rosewell Wells by deed May 24, 1788; 6. John Peirce by deed May 28, 1788; 7. Aaron Roberts by deed August 13, 1790; 8. Elisha Atherton by deed May 1, 1799, and certified to him, the patent being granted to him October 26, 1812 recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 564, for 77 acres 154 perches.

Lot No. 9. John Comstock original proprietor; 2. Peleg Comstock by deed October 5, 1787; 3. Margaret Comstock by deed January 9, 1789; 4. Luke Swetland by deed, January 9, 1789; 5. James Atherton, Jr. by deed June 29, 1795 and June 9, 1789; 6. Elisha Atherton by deeds October 19, 1798 and April 14, 1801, to whom the certificate was issued and patent granted October 26, 1812, for 77 acres, 154 perches; recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 564.

Lot No. 10. Asahel Atherton, original proprietor but drawn by his father James Atherton; 2. Elisha Atherton by deed October 19, 1798, to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted October 26, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 564 for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 11. Allen Wightman, original proprietor; 2. Drawn by John McDowell; 3. Elisha Swift by deed November 23, 1773; 4. Nathaniel Landon by deed February 21, 1776, to whom the certificate issued. Patent granted to Charles Chapman, December 19, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 241, for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 12. John Jenkins original proprietor; 2. Drawn by John Dorrance; 3. Benjamin Dorrance by deed April 7, 1799 to whom certificate issued and patent was granted May 16, 1806, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 4, for 77 acres, 154 perches.

Lot No. 13. Drawn by Zebulon Butler; 2. Lord Butler by deed January 11, 1790 to whom certificate issued and patent was granted December 16, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 380, containing 78 acres.

Lot No. 14. Elijah Buck, original proprietor; 2. Nathan Denison by deed October 21, 1774; 3. Asael Jearums by deed November 17, 1774; 4. Esther Follett, and Ashbel Robinson by deed February 18, 1776; 5. Asahel Jearums by deed of Robinson for one half December 9, 1776; 6. Zerubabel Jearums by deed April 19, 1777; 7. Nicholas Coxe by deed April 29, 1777; 5. James Sutton by deed of Esther Follett, for 6 acres; 5. Belding Swetland by deed Esther Follett, August 6, 1793 for one half; 6. Anning Owen by deed of Swetland, June 4, 1794; 7. Adam Shafer by deed of Owen, June 23, 1794, 38 acres; 8. Stephen Hollister by deed October 19, 1798 to whom the certificate was issued. Patent granted to Adam Shafer July 14, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 307 for 13 acres 154 perches; 8. Anning Owen and Benjamin Carpenter by deed of Nicholas Coxe, August 26, 1786, for one half;

9. Anning Owen by deed of Benjamin Carpenter April 17, 1788 for 36 acres. Certificate issued to Anning Owen and patent granted to him March 22, 1805, recorded in Patent Book P. 55, page 422, called Pleasant Valley, containing 33 acres, 79 perches; 6. James Sutton by deed of Belding Swetland; 7. Zachariah Hartsouff by deed of Sutton February 22, 1791; 8. Adam Shafer, by deed of Hartsouff March 19, 1798, 1 acre, to whom certificate issued and patent granted July 14, 1812 for 154 perches; 6. Zachariah Hartsouff by deed of Sutton February 22, 1791, 6 acres; 8. Zachariah Hartsouff by deed of Shafer, January 15, 1795, to whom certificate issued. Patent granted to Adam Shafer July 14, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 307, containing 31 acres, 142 perches.

Lot No. 15. Drawn by Stephen Fuller; 2. Heirs of Stephen Fuller; 3. Daniel Hoyt by deed June 4, 1799, to whom certificate issued and patent was granted March 28, 1806, recorded in Patent Book P. 56, page 479, for 87 acres, 64 perches

Lot No. 16. Stephen Jenkins original proprietor; 2. Rufus Williams by occupation; 3. Jedidiah Stevens by deed February 9, 1774; 4. Ira Stevens by deed September 14, 1787; 5. Oliver Pettebone by deed December 15, 1794, to whom certificate issued and patent was granted March 6, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 460, for 88 acres, 7 perches.

Lot No. 17. William Buck original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Curtis Spaulding; 3. Denison Spaulding by will; 4. Aholiab Buck by deed June 12, 1777; 5. Lord Butler by deed of John and Deborah Taylor heirs August 27, 1796; 6. Benjamin Dorrance by deed May 13, 1796 to whom certificate issued and patent was granted October 22, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 545 for 90 acres, 133 perches.

Lot No. 18. Reuben Davis original proprietor; 2. Asa Gore by deed; 3. Obadiah Gore by deed June 26, 1773; 4. Heirs of Obadiah Gore; 5. John Gore by deed to whom the certificate was issued under the Act of 1799; and patent granted to him February 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 32, for 94 acres, 135 perches.

Lot No. 19. Benajah Pendleton original proprietor; 2. Nathan Walsworth; 3. Drawn by Parshall Terry; 4. Oliver Bigelow by deed July 11, 1792; 5. Oliver Pettebone by deed, March 18, 1801, to whom certificate was issued under Act of 1799; and patent granted to him March 6, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 458 for 91 acres, 94 perches

Lot No. 20. Drawn by Stephen Harding or Robert Dixon; 2. Edward Lester by deed November 6, 1772; 3. Nathaniel Landon by deed June 28, 1773; 4. Zachariah Hartsouff by deed February 23, 1791; 5. Oliver Bigelow by deed December 7, 1793; 6. Oliver Pettebone by deed March 19, 1801 to whom certificate issued; and patent granted to him March 6, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 458, for 162 acres, 157 perches.

Lot No. 21. Timothy Smith original proprietor; 2. John Tuttle by deed of Benjamin Smith, Administrator, August 26, 1791; 3. Benjamin Smith by deed August 27, 1791; 4. Andrew Bennet by deed November 14, 1792; 5. Philip Myers by deed January 13, 1798, to whom certificate issued; and patent granted to him March 7, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 468, for 145 acres, 79 perches.

Lot No. 22. Drawn by Parshall Terry; certificate to Elijah Shoemaker and patent granted to him October 26, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 571, given as lots 21 and 22 for 127 acres, 128 perches.

Lot No. 23. Theophilius Westover original proprietor; 2. Benjamin Smith, to whom certificate issued; 3. Samuel Brace by deed of Benjamin Smith; 4. Joseph Swetland by deed April 7, 1802; 5. Lazarus Denison by deed May 10, 1802 for 6 acres, to whom certificate issued; and patent for same granted to Elijah Shoemaker, October 15, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 550 for 6 acres. Patent to Benjamin Smith, December 19, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 239 for 153 acres, part of lot No. 23.

Lot No. 24. Elias Roberts original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Phineas Peirce; 3. Thomas Bennet by deed March 2, 1778; 3. Henry Tuttle by deed April 30, 1790, for south west part to whom certificate issued; and patent granted to him February 21, 1815, recorded in Patent Book, H. 12, page 347 for 51 acres; 3. Joseph Tuttle by deed January 25, 1796, for 25 acres and certificate issued to him. Patent granted to Henry Tuttle, February 21, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 347 for part of lot No. 24, containing 23 acres, 93 perches; 3. John Tuttle by deed May 26, 1791, to whom certificate issued; and patent granted to him February 20, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 339 for part of lot No. 24, containing 74 acres, 77 perches.

Lot No. 25. Zerubabel Jearums original proprietor; 2. Nathan Denison by deed October 21, 1774 for one half of lot, to whom certificate issued. Patent to Lazarus Denison October 27, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 253, for 81 acres, 131 perches; 2. Thomas Stoddard by purchase, one-half of lot No. 25; 3. Abraham Van Gorder by deed June 17, 1791; 4. Hallet Gallup by deed March 25, 1797; 5. Aaron Dean by deed April 1, 1798 to whom certificate issued. Patent granted to Lazarus Denison October 27, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 253 for 83 acres, 73 perches.

Lot No. 26. Richard Brockway original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Curtis Spaulding; 3. Dennis Spaulding by gift; 4. Rufus Shepherd by deed July 28, 1781; 5. John Allen by deed October 24, 1795; 6. Benjamin Allen by deed February 6, 1800; 7. Elisha Atherton by deed April 14, 1800; 8. James Atherton by deed April 24, 1801, to whom certificate issued. Patent to Elisha Atherton November 2, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 593 for 159 acres, 41 perches.

Lot No. 27. Nathaniel Wales original proprietor; 2. Samuel Breese; 3. James Atherton by deed December 29, 1801 to whom certificate issued. Patent granted to Elisha Atherton November 2, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 593, for 166 acres, 16 perches.

Lot No. 28. Samuel Gaylord original proprietor; 2. William Buck by purchase in 1773; 3. Thomas Bennet by deed January 22, 1773; 4. Andrew Bennet by deed March 15, 1788; 5. Philip Myers by deed March 25, 1790; 6. Aaron Roberts by deed May 1, 1797; 7. Zachariah Hartsouff by deed May 23, 1798; 8. Aaron Roberts by deed March 28, 1800; 9. James Atherton by deed April 27, 1801 to whom certificate issued. Patent granted to David Perkins October 30, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 261, for 191 acres.

Lot No. 29. Peter Harris original proprietor; 2. Abel Peirce; 3. Lebbeus Tubbs by deed February 21, 1773; 4. Daniel Funch by deed October 21, 1776; 5. Benjamin Carpenter by deed of Administrator January 4, 1791; 6. Joseph Hazard by deed; 7. Luke Swetland by deed of William Slocum, Sheriff, November 18, 1796, sold as property of Joseph Hazard; 8. Belding Swetland by deed January 12, 1804, to whom certificate issued and patent granted to him November 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 609 for 190 acres.

Lot No. 30. Thomas Dyer original proprietor; 2. Thomas Dyer, Jr., by deed October 5, 1797 to whom certificate issued. Patent granted to Christian G. Oehmig, March 11, 1816, recorded in Patent Nook, H. 14 page 93 for 206 acres, 120 perches.

Lot No. 31. Henry Dow Tripp original proprietor; 2. Elisha Swift; 3. John McDowell by deed November 23, 1773; 4. Philip Jackson by deeds; Jacob and Elizabeth Stroud September 14, 1796, Laban and Jane Blanchard, January 25, 1790, Daniel McDowell, December 3, 1789, Abraham and Winty Miller, April 8, 1791, Daniel and Ann Shoemaker, December 15, 1796, Robert McDowell, September 26, 1789 for 2/10 and by wife Sarah Jackson 1/10. Certificate issued to Philip Jackson for 8/10; 3. Elijah Shoemaker by deed of John Shaw and Richard Shaw who married Mary and Hannah, daughters of John McDowell by deed November 1, 1802. Certificate issued to Elijah Shoemaker for 2/10. Patent granted to Fisher Gay, November 23, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 350 for 209 acres, 77 perches.

Lot No. 32. Thomas McClure original proprietor; 2. Ezekiel Peirce by deed May 26, 1774; 3. Winchester Matthewson by deed October 19, 1774; 4. David Perkins by deed of Elisha Matthewson, Administrator of estate of Winchester Matthewson, November 15, 1799. Certificate to David Perkins, and patent granted to him October 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 2, page 564 for 208 acres, 70 perches.

Lot No. 33. Oliver Smith, original proprietor; 2. Isaac Underwood, drawn by: 3. George Dorrance by deed, August 30, 1773; 4. Thomas Bennet by deed of John Dorrance, Administrator; 5. Andrew Bennet by deed November 3, 1792; 6. Gilbert Carpenter by deed, to whom certificate issued. Patent granted Jacob Bedford July 14, 1807, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 74 for part of lots 33, 34, and 35 containing 435 acres, 119 perches under the name of New Troy; 6. David Perkins by deed January 15, 1793 for 10 acres to whom certificate issued and patent granted to him October 20, 1812 recorded in Patent Book H. 2, page 564 for 11 acres, 27 perches; 6. Lewis Mullison by deed for 6 acres; 7. Solomon Chapin by deed August 19, 1801 to whom certificate issued and patent was granted October 28, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 2, page 567 for 46 acres, 113 perches.

Lot No. 34. Cyprian Lothrop, original proprietor; 2. Abel Smith; 3. Perrin Ross, (West. Recs. 537); 4. Aholiab Buck, (West. Recs. 132); 5. Elnathan Corey, (West. Recs 963); 6. Reuben Mullison, by deed of John Corey, 70 acres; 7. Lewis Mullison by deed June 6, 1794, 13½ acres; 8. Solomon Chapin by deed August 19, 1801, and by deed May 1, 1801 to whom certificate issued, and to whom patent was granted October 28, 1812, Patent Book H. 2, page 567, for part of lots Nos. 33 and 34, for 46 acres and 113 perches; 8. Jacob Bedford by deed October 29, 1801, to whom certificate issued, the patent being granted to Solomon Chapin, October 28, 1812, recorded in Patent Book, H. 2, page 567, for 9 acres, 155 perches, part of lots Nos. 34 and 35; 9. Gilbert Carpenter by deed November 3, 1801, to whom certificate issued, the patent being granted to Jacob Bedford, under New Troy (See under No. 33); 6. Comfort Shaw by deed for 57 acres; 6. Alexander Swartout by deed of Isaac Corey for 15 acres; 7. Jacob Bedford by deed May 11, 1798 for 15 acres; 8. Joseph Swetland by deed May 13, 1800 for 15 acres (See hereafter); 7. Gabriel Corey, by deed 30 acres; 7. John Corey by deed December 30, 1790, for 30 acres; 8. John Rosencrantz, by deed of John Corey, May 3, 1791, for 30 acres; 9. Joseph Swetland by deed March 11, 1800 for 30 acres to whom certificate issued, the patent being granted to Samuel Breese, October 28, 1812, Patent Book H. 2, page 567, for part of lots Nos. 33 and 34, containing 46 acres, 113 perches.

Lot No. 35. Nathan Denison, original proprietor; 2. Aholiab Buck by deed 1773; 3. Benjamin Carpenter by deed May 1, 1778; 4. Solomon Finch by deed May 18, 1778, except one acre for mill seat, (West. Recs. 984); 5. John Finch by deed May 18, 1778 for 28 acres; 5. Isaac Finch by deed of Solomon Finch; 6. John Rosecrantz by deed of Isaac Finch, May 27, 1790, for 150 acres; 7. Gilbert Carpenter by deed October 25, 1792, for 2 acres to whom the certificate issued, the patent being granted to Jacob Bedford (See under No. 33); 7. Josephus Barber 1½ acres; 8. Jacob Bedford by deed October 24, 1787, to whom the certificate issued, the patent being issued to Solomon Chapin (See under No. 34); 7. Joseph Swetland by deed of John Rosecrantz, March 11, 1800, to whom the certificate issued, two patents being granted to Samuel Breese as follows: October 14, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 542, for 50 acres, 26 perches, and the other, October 28, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 2, page 573 for part of lots Nos. 34 and 35 for 56 acres, 145 perches.

Lot No. 36. Job Yale, original proprietor; 2. Drawn by Stephen Yale; 3. Elias Roberts by deed September 29, 1774; 4. Asael Buck by deed October

2, 1774; 5. Benjamin Carpenter by deed May 1, 1778, part of this lot to whom certificate issued. Patents were issued to Benjamin Carpenter, July 14, 1807, Patent Book P. 60, page 82, part of lots Nos. 36 and 37, for 61 acres, 95 perches, on July 14, 1807, recorded in Patent Book P, page 80 for part of Nos. 36 and 37 for 131 acres, 130 perches; 5. James Carpenter by deed January 21, 1799, to whom certificate issued for part of this lot, the patent being granted to Benjamin Carpenter, July 14, 1807, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 82 for part of lots Nos. 36 and 37, containing 161 acres.

Lot No. 37. Stephen Gardner original proprietor; 2. Benjamin Yale; 3. Ozias Yale; 4. Benjamin Carpenter by deed of Andrew and Jemima Wortman Administrators of Ozias Yale, October 14, 1789, to whom the certificate issued and patent was granted (See under No. 36); 5. James Carpenter by deed January 21, 1799 to whom the certificate issued, the patent being granted to Benjamin Carpenter (See under No. 36); Benjamin Dorrance to whom a certificate, issued under the Act of 1799 for 43 acres, 48 perches, the patent being granted to William S. Shoemaker, Uriah Swetland, and Thomas Hutchins, February 18, 1870, recorded in Patent Book H. 65, page 430.

Lot No. 38. Joshua Hall original proprietor; 2. Drawn by John Perkins; 3. David Perkins to whom certificate issued and patent granted October 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 2, page 564, for part of lot 38, containing 31 acres, 11 perches; 4. Jonathan Hutchins by deed May 30, 1797, to whom certificate issued, the patent being granted to Christian Miller July 19, 1807, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 96 for part of No. 38 and No. 39, certified to Jonathan Hutchins, containing 70 acres, 114 perches; 3. Aaron Perkins, by deed of Benjamin Carpenter upper end of Monocanock Island; 4. Philip Jackson by deed January 5, 1790; 5. John Southerwaite by deed January 15, 1793; 6. James Scovell by deed March 22, 1794. Certified to Jonathan Stark, and patent granted to him March 15, 1805, recorded in Patent Book P. 55, page 431, for 13 acres, 137 perches.

Lot No. 39. Benjamin Follett original proprietor; 2. Frederick Follett, by allotment; 3. Jonathan Hutchins by deed May 29, 1793, to whom certificate issued and patent granted to Christian Miller July 14, 1807, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 96 for part of lots Nos. 38 and 39, containing 70 acres, 114 perches. A patent was granted to David Perkins, October 21, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 553 for part of Monocanock Island, containing 11 acres, 131 perches.

Lot No. 40. Benjamin Shoemaker, original proprietor; 2. Daniel and Elijah Shoemaker by will April 19, 1774; 3. James Gardner by deed of Elijah Shoemaker, December 29, 1777; 3. Elijah Shoemaker by deed of Daniel Shoemaker May 10, 1800; 4. James Gardner by deed of Elijah Shoemaker, Jr. June 1803. The certificate was issued to Gardner, and the patent to Ezekiel Goble, October 15, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 548 for part of No. 40, containing 58 acres, 30 perches. A patent was granted to James Scovell, July 14, 1807, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 72, for part of Monocanock Island, containing 15 acres, 77 perches.

FOURTH DIVISION

Lot No. 1. Peter Harris original proprietor; 2. Lydia Shay by will, Westmoreland Probate Records, 51; 3. Sears Shay by deed of William and Lydia Shay, September 4, 1802, to whom the certificate issued. The patent was granted to Henry Buckingham, October 8, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 521 for 159 acres, 115 perches.

Lot No. 2. Drawn by Solomon Bennet; 2. Ezekiel Peirce; 3. Rufus Williams by deed February 1773; 4. Jedidiah Stevens by deed November 9, 1774, for the undivided land; 5. Ira Stevens by deed September 14, 1787; 6. Benjamin Smith by deed November 16, 1787; 7. Thomas Allerton by deed July 26, 1791, to whom certificate was issud for 75 acres, 28 perches, the patent being granted May 1, 1874, to Charles Dorrance, Philip T. Myers, Frederick B. Myers, and William P. Myers, recorded in Patent Book H. 72, page 696.

Lot No. 3. Right of Benajah Pendleton or Nathan Walsworth; 2. Drawn by Parshall Terry; 3. Oliver Bigelow by deed July 11, 1792; 4. Zachariah Hartsouff by deed, December 17, 1793, to whom certificate issued, the patent being granted to Peter Babb, June 4, 1816, recorded in Patent Book H. 14, page 322 for 158 acres, 96 perches.

Lot No. 4. Right of Ezra Belding; 2. Leonard and Jonathan Belding, by inheritance; 3. Stephen Hollister by deed October 13, 1803, to whom certificate issued. The patent was granted to William W. Lathrop and Thomas Davis, June 16, 1871, recorded in Patent Book H. 68, page 625 for 161 acres, 102 perches; 122 acres, 143 perches, being vested in Lathrop, and 38 acres, 119 perches in Davis.

Lot No. 5. Settling right of John Jenkins; 2. Elisha Swift; 3. Samuel Allen, by deed of Nathaniel Landon Administrator, February 20, 1789; 3. Nathaniel Landon by deed February 21, 1789, to whom the certificate issued, the patent being granted to John Dorrance, Charles Dorrance, and John Sharps, March 7, 1838, recorded in Patent Book H. 39, page 136, for 179 acres, 16 perches.

Lot No. 6. Certified to Benjamin Dorrance on Luzerne Warrant, No. 243, dated March 24, 1819, surveyed April 26, 1819, Book C. 43, page 142. Patent issued to John Bennet May 5, 1819, recorded in Patent Book H. 16, page 617, for 156 acres, 116 perches.

Lot No. 7. Settling right of Timothy Smith; 2. Gideon Underwood by deed of Benjamin Smith, Administrator; 3. Benjamin Smith by deed, to whom the certificate issued; Patent issued to Joseph Swetland, February 22, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 351, for 146 acres, 122 perches.

Lot No. 8. Drawn by James Atherton; 2. Elisha Atherton, by deed October 19, 1798 to whom certificate issued for an undivided one half. The other half of this lot was certified to Benjamin Dorrance on Luzerne Warrant No. 245, dated December 17, 1819, and the patent for this was granted to Adam Shafer, April 16, 1829, recorded in Patent Book H. 27, page 41, containing 149 acres, 142 perches.

Lot No. 9. Settling right of Reuben Davis; 2. Asa Gore, Sr.; 3. Asa Gore, Jr., by inheritance; 3. John Gore by deed November 21, 1799, to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted February 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 29 for lots No.s 9 and 10, containing 311 acres, 100 perches.

Lot No. 10. Obadiah Gore; 2. Heirs of Obadiah Gore; 3. John Gore by deed, to whom certificate Issued and the patent was granted. (See under No. 9).

Lot No. 11. Settling right of Elijah Buck; 2. Asahel Buck by purchase; 3. Noah Pettebone by deed July 5, 1773, for one-half; 3. Pierce Bryant by deed January 30, 1781 for one-half; 4. Oliver Pettebone by deed of Lord Butler, Sheriff, as property of Pierce Bryant, November 29, 1789, for one half containing 105 acres; 5. Charles Harris by deed August 29, 1791; 6. Elijah Harris by deed May 19, 1798; 3. Elijah Harris by deed November 30, 1796 of William Trucks and Mehitable Trucks and Daniel and Parmelia Ayers, heirs of Asahel Buck, for other half to whom certificate issued and patent was granted February 12, 1813, recorded in Patent Book H. 9, page 9 for 159 acres, 66 perches.

Lot No. 12. Settling right of John Comstock; 2. Peleg Comstock by will; 3. Elijah Harris by will April 21, 1788, to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted February 12, 1813, recorded in Patent Book H. 9, page 9 for 159 acres, 136 perches.

Lot No. 13. Settling right of Richard Brockway; 2. Curtis Spaulding; 3. Denison Spaulding by gift; 4. Rufus Shepherd by deed July 8, 1781;

4. John Allen by deed October 24, 1795; 5. Elijah Harris by deed January 8, 1798 to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted February 12, 1813 recorded in Patent Book H. 9, page 9, for 163 acres, 47 perches.

Lot No. 14. Drawn by John Dorrance; 2. Benjamin Dorrance by deed April 7, 1799, to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted October 26, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 339 for 165 acres, 41 perches.

Lot No. 15. Right of Phineas Peirce; 2. Samuel Cummings by deed November 18, 1773; 3. Samuel Gordon by deed June 17, 1775; 4. John Dorrance by deed June 21, 1778; 5. Benjamin Dorrance by deed April 7, 1799, to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted October 26, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. page 339, for 167 acres, 41 perches.

Lot No. 16. Settling right of Isaac Tripp; 2. William Gallup by deed January 19, 1774; 3. Hallet Gallup by deed March 15, 1775; 4. Thomas Ridge by deed of Benjamin Dorrance, Sheriff, March 3, 1782; 5. Arnold Colt by deed August 31, 1803, to whom the certificate issued. Patent to David Perkins October 20, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 324, for 169 acres, 41 perches.

Lot No. 17. Settling right of Benjamin Shoemaker; 2. Elijah and Daniel Shoemaker by will; 3. Elijah Shoemaker, one half by deed of Daniel Shoemaker, May 10, 1800, to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted October 15, 1812 recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 552 for 169 acres, 128 perches.

Lot No. 18. Abel Peirce; 2. Lebbeus Tubbs by deed February 20, 1773; 3. Daniel Finch by deed June 20, 1777; 4. Benjamin Carpenter by deed of Samuel Finch, Administrator to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted July 14, 1807, recorded in Patent Book P. 60, page 80 for 167 acres, 90 perches.

Lot No. 19. Settling right of Benjamin Follett; 2. Nathan Denison by deed of Frederick Follett, Administrator April 12, 1793, to whom the certificate issued; and patent granted to John Denison, Lazarus Denison, and George Denison, February 14, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 293 for 158 acres, 24 perches.

Lot No. 20. Stephen Fuller; 2. Daniel Hoyt by deed of Asa Abbott, and Sarah Abbott, widow and Ebenezer, John and Polly Griffin only heirs, June 4, 1799, to whom certificate issued and patent was granted, February 19, 1806, recorded in Patent Book P. 56, page 477, for 177 acres, 11 perches.

Lot No. 21. Robert Dixon; 2. Edward Lester; 3. Nathaniel Landon by deed June 28, 1773; 4. Joel Lucas by deed June 10, 1801 to whom the certificate was issued. Patent granted to Joseph Swetland, October 22, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 323, for 181 acres, 157 perches.

Lot No. 22. Settling right of Oliver Smith; 2. Drawn by Isaac Underwood; 3. Benjamin Dorrance; 4. Joel Lucas by deed, to whom the certificate issued. Patent granted to Joseph Swetland, October 22, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 8, page 323 for 199 acres, 161 perches.

Lot No. 23. Settling right of William Buck; 2. Matthias Hollenback by deed to whom the certificate issued and the patent was granted March 16, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H. 9, page 390 for 196 acres, 80 perches.

Lot No. 24. Settling right of Thomas Bennet; 2. John Tuttle by deed November 26, 1791; 3. Philip Myers by deed July 5, 1795, to whom certificate issued and the patent was granted March 7, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 464 for 203 acres, 136 perches.

Lot No. 25. Settling right of Allen Wightman; 2. John McDowell; 3. Philip Jackson by deed of Jacob Stroud, et. al. for eight-tenths to whom certificate issued; 3. Elijah Shoemaker by deed of John Shaw, et. al. for two tenths, November 1, 1802 to whom certificate issued. Patent granted to Peter Loudenberger, January 28, 1852, recorded in Patent Book H. 48, page 428 for 218 acres, 86 perches.

Lot No. 26. Settling right of Joshua Hall; 2. John Perkins; 3. Wilmot Munson by deed of David Perkins, Administrator, February 18, 1795; Certificate issued to Wilmot Munson and patent granted to Walter Munson, October 16, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 525, for 228 acres, 114 perches.

Lot No. 27. Settling right of Job Yale; 2. Stephen Yale; 3. Elias Roberts by deed September 29, 1774; 4. Peter Tift by deed; 5. Rosewell Welles by deed of John Peirce, Administrator for use of Elisha Mathewson, May 24, 1788; 6. Arnold Colt by deed of Elisha Mathewson for one-half, March 30, 1790: 7. Nathan Mulford by deed July 15, 1799 for one-half to whom certificate issued, and patent was granted December 19, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 191, for 117 acres, 20¼ perches; 5. John Peirce by deed of Rosewell Welles May 20, 1788; 6. Benjamin Dorrance by deed July 9, 1796; 7. Jonathan Carver by deed September 1796, to whom certificate was issued. Patent to William Church December 21, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 187, containing 117 acres, 20¼ perches being one-half of lot No. 27, certified to Jonathan Carver, and endorsed on the patent is the following: "This patent not having been taken from the office and recorded in the proper county agreeable to the law is therefore void."

Lot No. 28. Zebulon Butler; 2. Richard Brockway by deed July 30, 1772; 3. Lemuel Wakely by deed March 31, 1796, for 108 acres; 4. Daniel Weeks by deed August 4, 1796; 3. Sarah and Rhoda Sawyer by deed of R. Brockway September 10, 1782 for 100 acres of undivided land; 4. William Slocum, by deed of John and Rhoda Swift, (Slocum married Sarah Sawyer, February 23, 1799); 5. Daniel Weeks by deed of Slocums, August 16, 1799, to whom certificate issued. Patent granted to Peter Babb, July 19, 1813, recorded in Patent Book H. 9, page 216 for 241 acres, 67 perches.

Lot No. 29. Abel Smith; 2. Perrin Ross by deed October 30, 1772; 3. Aholiab Buck by deed November 18, 1772; 4. Lord Butler by deed, August 27, 1796 of Deborah Taylor only child of Buck; 5. Stephen Hollister by deed February 26, 1800 for one-half, to whom certificate was issued, and patent granted to Peter Babb July 19, 1813, recorded in Patent Book H. 9, page 216 for 124 acres, 45.5 perches; 5. Charles Harris, by deed of Lord Butler, for one half, September 21, 1797. The certificate was issued to Harris who was granted a patent March 16, 1812 recorded in Patent Book H. 6, page 752 for 134 acres, 45.5 perches.

Lot No. 30. Settling right of Elias Roberts; 2. Seth and Eliakim Roberts by inheritance; 3. Eliakim Roberts by deed of Seth Roberts, August 15, 1788; 4. Elijah Harris by deed October 29, 1791; 5. Charles Harris by deed May 19, 1798, to whom certificate issued and patent was granted March 16, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 6, page 752, for 255 acres, 155 perches.

Lot No. 31. Settling right of Joseph Fink; 2. James Forsyth by vote of the Susquehanna Company, June 2, 1773; 3. William Stewart by deed of Forsyth, June 23, 1773, to whom certificate was issued. Patent to George W. Woodward, January 28, 1852, Patent Book H. 48, page 427 for 262 acres, 139 perches.

Lot No. 32. Settling right of Thomas Dyer; 2. Thomas Dyer, Jr., by deed October 5, 1797 to whom the certificate issued. Patent granted to Isaac Nulton May 4, 1864, recorded in Patent Book H. 60, page 76, for 259 acres, 116 perches.

Lot No. 33. Settling right of Zerubabel Jearums; 2. Thomas Stoddard by purchase; 3. Thomas Allerton by deed June 18, 1791 for 104 acres, to whom certificate was issued for a part of this, and patent granted to Samuel Harris, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 269 for 8 acres, 148 perches; 4. Elijah Harris by deed of Allerton July 20, 1801, the certificate being granted to Harris, and patent issued to him February 5, 1813, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 746 for 8 acres, 148 perches; 3. Nathan Denison by deed of Thomas

Stoddard, June 17, 1791. Certificate issued to Denison, and patent granted to John Denison, Lazarus Denison, and George Denison, February 23, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 365 for 117 acres, 11 perches.

Lot No. 34. Settling right of Benjamin Yale; 2. Ozias Yale; 3. Eliakim Roberts by deed February 23, 1790; 4. Nathan Denison by deed February 23, 1790 for a part to whom certificate issued, and patent granted to John Denison, Lazarus Denison, and George Denison, February 23, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 365 for 183 acres, 66 perches; 3. Justus Gaylord by deed May 19, 1774; 4. John Wort by deed June 3, 1795 to whom certificate issued, and patent was granted June 17, 1820, recorded in Patent Book H. 17, page 233 for part of lots Nos. 34 and 35, containing 148 acres, 46 perches; Thomas Wighton claimed 66¾ acres which were certified to Joseph Montayne and patent was granted to him February 4, 1813, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 752 part of lots Nos. 34 and 35, containing 174 acres, 35 perches.

Lot No. 35. Settling right of Joshua Hall; 2. David Perkins by deed of Benjamin Carpenter, Administrator; 3. John Wort by deed March 1, 1793, to whom certificate issued, and patent was granted (See under No. 34); 4. Joseph Montayne by deed of Wort; certificate issued to Montayne, and patent granted to him. (See under No. 34).

Lot No. 36. Settling right of Timothy Peirce; 2. Ezekiel Peirce; 3. John Peirce by deed May 21, 1773, and deed May 8, 1775; 4. Lawrence Myers by deed June 2, 1788; 5. Samuel Carver by deed July 4, 1794, to whom certificate issued and patent was granted March 6, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 456, for 240 acres, 142 perches.

Lot No. 37. Settling right of Nathan Denison; 2. Caleb Brundage by deed; 3. Nathan Denison by deed February 14, 1800; 4. Samuel Carver by deed January 29, 1801 for a part, to whom certificate issued and patent was granted March 6, 1811, recorded in Patent Book H. 5, page 456, for 148 acres, 25 perches. The remainder of this lot was certified to Nathan Denison and the patent was issued to Morgan Young, February 4, 1815, recorded in Patent Book H. 12, page 237 for 148 acres and 25 perches.

Lot No. 38. Zebulon Butler; 2. Heirs of Zebulon Butler to whom the certificate issued. Patent granted to Jacob Frantz, July 28, 1821, recorded in Patent Book H. 18, page 256, for 316 acres, 103 perches.

Lot No. 39. Settling right of Benjamin Shoemaker; 2. Elijah Shoemaker, Sr., and Daniel Shoemaker by will; 3. Elijah Shoemaker, Jr., by inheritance and by deed of Daniel Shoemaker, May 10, 1800; 4. John Horton by deed December 22, 1803; 5. Elijah Shoemaker by deed December 22, 1803, to whom certificate issued and patent was granted October 15, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H. 7, page 554, for 324 acres, 19 perches.

Lot No. 40. Benjamin Shoemaker; 2. Elisha Swift; 3. Michael Pace by deed of Nathaniel Landon, Administrator of Swift; 4. Laban Blanchard by deed March 12, 1794; 5. Elijah Shoemaker by deed to whom certificate issued and patent granted to Charles D. Shoemaker and Oristis Collins, June 18, 1841, recorded in Patent Book H. 43, page 503 for 469 acres, 151 perches.

PUBLIC LAND

Certified to Benjamin Dorrance in trust for the Proprietors of Kingston Township, under Act of 1799; Book 3, page 204, Patent to Fisher Gay, April 2, 1822, recorded in Patent Book H 20, page 60, a strip between lots, 16 and 17, Fourth Division, containing 34 acres.

Certified to Elias Hoyt in trust for the Proprietors on Luzerne Warrant No. 443, dated December 7, 1820; Book C 10, page 187; Patent to Elias Hoyt in trust for the Proprietors July 28, 1821, recorded in Patent Book H 18, page 255, containing 315 acres, 75 perches.

Certified to Lawrence Myers in trust for the Proprietors, Book 3, page 55; Patent to Ebenezer H. Snowden, July 13, 1841, recorded in Patent Book H 42, page 341, part of gore, 1st Division, 8 acres, 68 perches.

Certified to Lawrence Myers in trust for the Proprietors under Act of 1799; Patent to heirs and legal representatives of Matthias Hollenback, April 20, 1829, recorded in Patent Book H 27, page 104; Mill Lot, 4th Division, containing 287 acres, 134 perches.

Certified to Lawrence Myers in trust for the Proprietors under Act of 1799; Patent to Elijah Shoemaker November 11, 1812, recorded in Patent Book, H 7, page 597, a gore 1st Division, containing 6 acres, 66 perches.

Certified to Lawrence Myers in trust for the Proprietors under Act of 1799; Patent to Philip Myers, Jacob Bedford and Samuel Thomas, Committee for Kingston Township, March 19, 1816; recorded in Patent Book H 13, page 287, part of gore, 1st Division, containing 26 acres, 6 perches.

Certified to Lawrence Myers in trust for Proprietors under Act of 1799, for 3 acres 129 perches, Patent to Jane Rees, February 24, 1874, recorded in Patent Book H 72, page 514, part of gore, 1st Division, 1 acre, 9 perches.

Certified to Lawrence Myers in trust for the Proprietors under Act of 1799; Patent to Proprietors of Kingston Township July 14, 1812; recorded in Patent Book H 7, page 309, a gore, 1st Division, containing 20 acres, 68 perches.

Certified to John Shaw under Act of 1799, Book 2, page 163; Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, December 15, 1814, recorded in Patent Book H 12, page 193; Part of Public land, Third Division, containing 215 acres, 30 perches.

Certified to Charles D. Shoemaker, Samuel Reese, J. P. Rice, M. F. Myers, H. Polen and M. G. Phillips, School Directors of Kingston Township, on Luzerne Warrant No. 475, dated April 8, 1857, Patent to same in trust for Kingston Township School District, April 13, 1857, recorded in Patent Book H 53, page 383, containing 20 perches.

Certified to Elijah Shoemaker under Act of 1799, Patent to Elijah Shoemaker, November 18, 1812, recorded in Patent Book H 7, page 597, Public Lot, Third Division, containing 199 acres, 47 perches.

OTHER LANDS

Luzerne Warrant, No. 615 to Philo Bower, 4 acres, 79 perches, Surveyed July 11, 1854, not patented.

Luzerne Warrant No. 398 dated March 16, 1874 to Harmon A. Chambers Patent to Harmon A. Chambers April 20, 1874, recorded in Patent Book H 72, page 667, containing 1 acre, 123 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 323 to Harmon A. Chambers April 29, 1869, patent to Harmon A. Chambers August 3, 1870, Patent Book H 61, page 728 for 10 acres, 137.4 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 322, to Harmon A. Chambers, April 29, 1869, Patent to Harmon A. Chambers August 3, 1870; Patent Book H 66, page 727, for 10 acres, 142.2 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 498 dated September 10, 1872, Book C 88, page 103; Patent to John D. Hoyt, May 27, 1875, recorded in Patent Book H 73 page 239 for 2 acres.

Certified to Philip Jackson under Act of 1799, Book 2, page 60; Patent to John S. Jackson, John S. Pettebone, Adam Heisz, Sarah Pool, late Sarah Rinker, Charles Van Buskirk, James Space, Jeremiah Van Buskirk, and Isaac Tripp, January 6, 1874, recorded in Patent Book, H 72, page 454, a gore, in First Division, containing 82 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 305, dated September 22, 1856; to Edmund G. Markley, Book C, 179, page 214; Patent to Edward G. Markley October 31, 1856; recorded in Patent Book H 53, page 236, for 9 acres, 12 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 324, dated April 7, 1869 to Andrew Miller, Book C 147, page 21; Patent to Andrew Miller, July 5, 1870, recorded in Patent Book H 67, page 584 for 3 acres, 6.9 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 282 dated July 22, 1867 Certified to Payne Pettebone, Book B 15, page 167; Patent to Payne Pettebone, August 24, 1867, recorded in Patent Book H 62, page 132 for 23 acres, 82 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 480, dated May 6, 1859, to Elijah Shoemaker, Patent to heirs and legal representatives of Elijah Shoemaker January 10, 1866, recorded in Patent Book, H 61, page 117, containing 4 acres, 134 perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 494 dated January 5, 1867, Patent to F. M. Shoemaker August 16, 1867, recorded in Patent Book H 62, page 123 for 12 acres, 111½ perches.

Luzerne Warrant No. 282, dated January 28, 1867, Book B 5, page 131, Patented to James P. Weller, July 2, 1868, recorded in Patent Book H 63, page 50 for 26 acres, 152.8 perches.

CHAPTER XXIV.

SOLDIERS

1775–1918

The concluding chapter of this book is a humble tribute to those who have offered the supreme sacrifice for their country. In all the ages of human history, the soldier is the honored man. The traditional lore, of almost forgotten races, is the story of strife and conquest. In the minds of simple men, the renown of their savage warriors has been preserved for countless centuries. The great folk song of the Anglo Saxon people begins with the bloody fight at Aylesford and ends with "The Charge of the Light Brigade." The greatest figures of all history are the greatest soldiers, Alexander, Caesar, Cromwell, and Napoleon; and the triumphal arches reared at Rome, and the marble columns, in the capitals of the world, tell the story of the common soldier.

Such universal homage is bedded deeper in human nature, than the mere appeal to imagination inspired by the call of the bugle, the martial beat of the drum and the panoply of war; for deeply furrowed in the minds of men is the sense of fear, the horror of destruction and of the obliteration of home and race. In the might of the soldier, the generations of men have found their security. Standing between the fierce foe and the weaker ones of his kin, he has ever been the protector of his people, and they have rightly ennobled him, as the supreme product of their race. So long as men struggle for destiny, and they will so struggle, as long as human hearts beat, so long will men strive to achieve from those that have, what they have not; and just so long will the soldier continue to be the supremely honored guardian of his kindred and his home.

Rightly then, we preserve in the annals of the race, the glory of their achievements, and chart their names on the scroll of the unforgotten ones. And rightly, men and women of the unborn generations will proudly trace their blood from those who offered the supreme sacrifice for their country.

In this roll of honor, most of them were only private soldiers and humble men; yet their renown is an undying glory, which will be preserved, when politician and financier, the socially great and the worldly wise are forgotten. In all the wars of this country, Kingston Township has furnished a goodly number of patriotic and gallant soldiers, the memory of whose names, and valiant deeds, are enshrined in the minds of their fellow men. Upon its soil was fought one of the battles of the Revolution; one of its boys was the martyr hero of the War of 1812; and another son, a gallant and distinguished soldier became the honored governor of the Commonwealth.

SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION

As stated on page 172, on October 21, 1778, Lieutenant John Jenkins and a detail of twenty-five soldiers buried the remains of those slain at Wyoming. General William Ross told Professor Silliman in 1829, that, "owing to the intense heat of the weather, and probably the dryness of the air, the bodies were shriveled, dried and inoffensive, but, with a single exception, their features could not be recognized." The bodies were taken up with pitchforks, and carried in a cart, and buried in a common grave on the east side of the Avenue, in a field then belonging to John McDowell and in the possession of Jesse Lee whose widow subsequently married Philip Jackson. The ground was plowed and worked and the place of interment forgotten until 1832, when Mr. Jackson located the spot and the grave was opened.

On June 16, 1832, a meeting was held at the old tavern at Kingston Corners (Exchange Hotel), then conducted by Oliver Helme. General William Ross was chairman and Charles D. Shoemaker, secretary, and a committee composed of John Carey, Colonel Benjamin Dorrance, Rev. Benjamin Bidlack, Colonel George P. Ransom, Calvin Wadhams, John Gore, Anderson Dana, Joseph Wright, and Benjamin Reynolds, was appointed, and reported a resolution, "That we request the citizens of the Valley to meet at the house of F. Gay in Kingston on the 3d day of July next at 10 o'clock for the purpose of adopting such measures as may be thought necessary to insure the erection of a monument." Fisher Gay then owned the land upon which the grave was located, and it was determined to purchase of him "half an acre of ground including the burial place of those who fell in the Battle of Wyoming." The contemplated meeting was held and was largely attended.

In December 1832, Colonel Erastus Hill, who had charge commenced the work of quarrying on the Kingston Mountain, and delivered the stone for the foundation and vault. In the following spring, the bones of eighty-three skeletons were removed from the common grave, and being placed in three large boxes were kept in the office of William Swetland's store, until December 5, 1833, when they were deposited in the monument vault. The corner stone of the monument had been laid, July 3, 1833, the address being delivered by Hon. Chester Butler. Mangan & Blanchard had the contract for the cut stone, which was quarried on the east side of the river, and having reared the monument to a height of about twenty feet they quit work in June 1834, because of a lack of funds. In 1839, an appeal was made to the State of Connecticut to aid in building the monument and the request was renewed in 1841, but nothing came of it. The monument was finally completed by the ladies of Kingston and Wilkes-Barre, who organized the "Ladies Monumental Association" and raised the necessary funds. Colonel Morehead was the contractor, and the monument was finished prior to October 1843. Not until 1864, were the grounds properly graded and fenced. The first officers of the association were. Mrs. Chester Butler, President; Mrs. G. M. Hollenback, and Mrs. E. Carey, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Nicholson Mrs. Hollenback, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Conyngham, Mrs. Beaumont, Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Bennet, Mrs. Carey, Executive Committee; Miss Emily Cist, Treasurer; Miss Gertrude Butler, Secretary; Mrs. Donley and Mrs. L. Butler, Corresponding Committee. The monument is sixty-two feet, six inches in height. On marble tablets on the sides of the monument are the following inscriptions.

The one on the north-west contains the following appropriate inscription by Edward G. Mallery, great grandson of Colonel Butler.

"Near this spot was fought
On the afternoon of Friday, the third day of
July, 1778.
THE BATTLE OF WYOMING,
In which a small band of patriotic Americans,
Chiefly the undisciplined, the youthful and the aged,

Wyoming Monument

Spared by inefficiency from the distant ranks of the Republic,
Led by Col. Zebulon Butler and Col. Nathan Denison,
With a courage that deserved success,
Boldly met and bravely fought
A combined British, Tory and Indian force
of thrice their number.
Numerical superiority alone gave success to the invader,
And wide spread havoc, desolation and ruin
Marked his savage and bloody footsteps through the Valley.
THIS MONUMENT,
Commemorative of these events,
and of the actors in them
has been erected
OVER THE BONES OF THE SLAIN,
By their descendants and others, who gratefully
appreciated
the services and sacrifices of their patriot
ancestors."

Those on the south-west and north-east sides contain the names of the slain, so far as was known at the time of the building; a few names have since been added to the list which is now as follows:

DULCE ET DECORUM EST PRO PATRIA MORI
SLAIN IN BATTLE

Field Officers: Lieutenant Colonel George Dorrance; Major Jonathan Waite Garrett.

Captains: James Bidlack, Jr., Aholiab Buck, Robert Durkee, Rezin Geer, Dethick Hewitt, Wm. McKarrachen, Samuel Ransom, Lazarus Stewart, James Wigdon, Asaph Whittlesey.

Lieutenants: A. Atherton, Aaron Gaylord, Perrin Ross, Lazarus Stewart, Jr., Flavius Waterman, Stoddart Bowen, Timothy Peirce, Elijah Shoemaker, Asa Stevens, James Wells.

Ensigns: Jeremiah Bigford, Silas Gore, Jonathan Otis, Asa Gore, Titus Hinman, William White.

Privates: Jabez Atherton, Christopher Avery, ——— Ackke, A. Benedict, Jabez Beers, Samuel Bigford, David Bixby, Elias Bixby, John Boyd, John Brown, Thomas Brown, William Buck, Joseph Budd, Amos Bullock, Asa Bullock, Henry Bush, Eson Brockway, John Caldwell, Josiah Carman, Joseph Cary, Joel Church, William Cofferin, James Cofferin, Samuel Cole, Isaac Campbell, ——— Campbell, Robert Comstock, Kingsley Comstock, Three Cook Brothers, Christopher Courtright, John Courtright, Anson Corey, Jenks Corey, Rufus Corey, Joseph Crocker, Samuel Crocker, Jabez Darling, D. Denton, Anderson Dana, Conrad Davenport, George Downing, James Devine, Levi Dunn, William Dunn, ——— Ducher, Benjamin Finch, Daniel Finch, John Finch, Elisha Fish, Cornelius Fitchett, Eliphalet Follett, Thomas Faxon, John Franklin, Stephen Fuller, Thomas Fuller, George Gore, ——— Gardner, ——— Green, Benjamin Hatch, William Hammon, Silas Harvey, Samuel Hutchinson, Cyprian Hebard, Levi Hicks, John Hutchins, James Hopkins, Nathaniel Howard, Zipporah Hibbard, Elijah Inman, Israel Inman, Samuel Jackson, Robert Jameson, Joseph Jennings, Henry Johnson, Joshua Landon, Daniel Lawrence, William Lawrence, Francis Ledyard, James Lock, Conrad Lowe, Jacob Lowe, William Lester, C. McCartee, Nicholas Manville, Nero Matthewson, Alexander McMillan, Job Marshall, Andrew Millard, John Murphy, Robert McIntire, Joseph Ogden, Abel Palmer, Silas Parke, William Parker, John Pierce, Henry Pencil, Noah Pettebone, Jr., Jeremiah Ross, Jr., Elisha Richards, William Reynolds, Elias Roberts, Timothy Rose, Abram Shaw, James Shaw, Joseph Shaw, Constant Searle, Abel Seely, Levi Spencer, Eleazer Sprague, Aaron Stark, Daniel Stark, Josiah Spencer, Darius Spofford, James Spencer, Joseph Staples, Reuben Staples, Rufus Stevens, James Stevenson, Nailer Sweed, Gamaliel Truesdale, Ichabod Tuttle, Abram Vangorder, John Van Wie, Elihu Waters, Jonathan Weeks, Bartholomew Weeks, Philip Weeks, Peter Wheeler, Stephen Whiton, Eben Wilcox, Elihu Williams, Jr., Rufus Williams, Eson Wilcox, John Williams, John Ward, John Wilson, Parker Wilson, William Woodring, Aziba Williams, ——— Wade, Ozias Yale, Gershom Prince, colored; Lieut. Boyd, killed at Forty Fort after the Battle.

On the south-east side over the door leading to the vault is a slab containing a list of the survivors, as follows:

LIST OF SURVIVORS

Colonels: Zebulon Butler, Nathan Denison.
Lieutenants: Daniel Gore, Timothy Howe.
Ensigns: Daniel Downing, Matthias Hollenback.
Sergeants: Jabez Fish, Phineas Spafford, ————Gates.

Privates: John Abbott, Gideon Baldwin, Zera Beach, Rufus Bennett, Solomon Bennett, Elisha Blackman, Nathan Carey, Samuel Carey, George Cooper, Joseph Elliott, Samuel Finch, Roswell Franklin, Hugh Forsman, Thomas Fuller, John Garrett, Samuel Gore, Lemuel Gustin, James Green, Lebbeus Hammond, Jacob Haldron, Elisha Harris, Ebenezer Heberd, William Heberd, Richard Inman, David Inman, John Jamison, Henry Lickers, Joseph Morse, Thomas Neill, Josiah Pell, Phineas Peirce, Abraham Pike, John N. Skinner, Giles Slocum, Walter Spencer, Edward Spencer, Amos Stafford, Roger Searle, Cherrick Westbrook, Eleazer West, Daniel Washburn.

Prisoners taken from Wyoming: John Gardner, Daniel Carr, Samuel Carey, Daniel Wallen, Daniel Rosencrans, Elisha Wilcox, ————Pierce.

Killed on approach to Wyoming: William Crooks, Miner Robbins, Benjamin Harding, Stukeley Harding, James Hadsall, James Hadsall, Jr., Wm. Martin, ———— Quocko, colored.

In 1877, the Wyoming Centennial Association was duly organized with Charles Dorrance as President; Lazarus D. Shoemaker as Treasurer and Wesley Johnson as Secretary. This organization had charge of the Centennial, which was held on July 3, 1878, and was the greatest celebration, to that time, held in Northeastern Pennsylvania. President Hayes; Secretary of the Treasurer, John Sherman, Attorney General Devens, and Governor Hartranft were present and spoke at the exercises. Hon. Steuben Jenkins delivered the Historical Address.

President Roosevelt visited the Monument, August 10, 1905. Every year the Wyoming Commemorative Association holds appropriate exercises at the monument on July 3d.

The Sesqui Centennial held in 1928, brought a large number of distinguished guests to Wyoming. The exercises held at the monument were largely attended, and excellent addresses were delivered.

OTHER SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION

Members of Independent Company of Captain Durkee: Asahel Buck, Second Lieutenant; Heman Swift, Ensign; Edward Lester, Corporal; Privates William Buck, Jr., Asa Brown, Frederick Follett, Asahel Jearums, died July 31, 1777; Seth Marvin; Stephen Pettebone; Aaron Perkins, discharged July 10, 1777; John Perkins, Jr., died July 6, 1777; Ashabel Robinson, died September 25, 1777; Luke Swetland, discharged January 8, 1778; William Terry; Parshall Terry, Jr., deserted January 11, 1777; John Tubbs, Samuel Tubbs, Edward Walker, and Thomas Wilson.

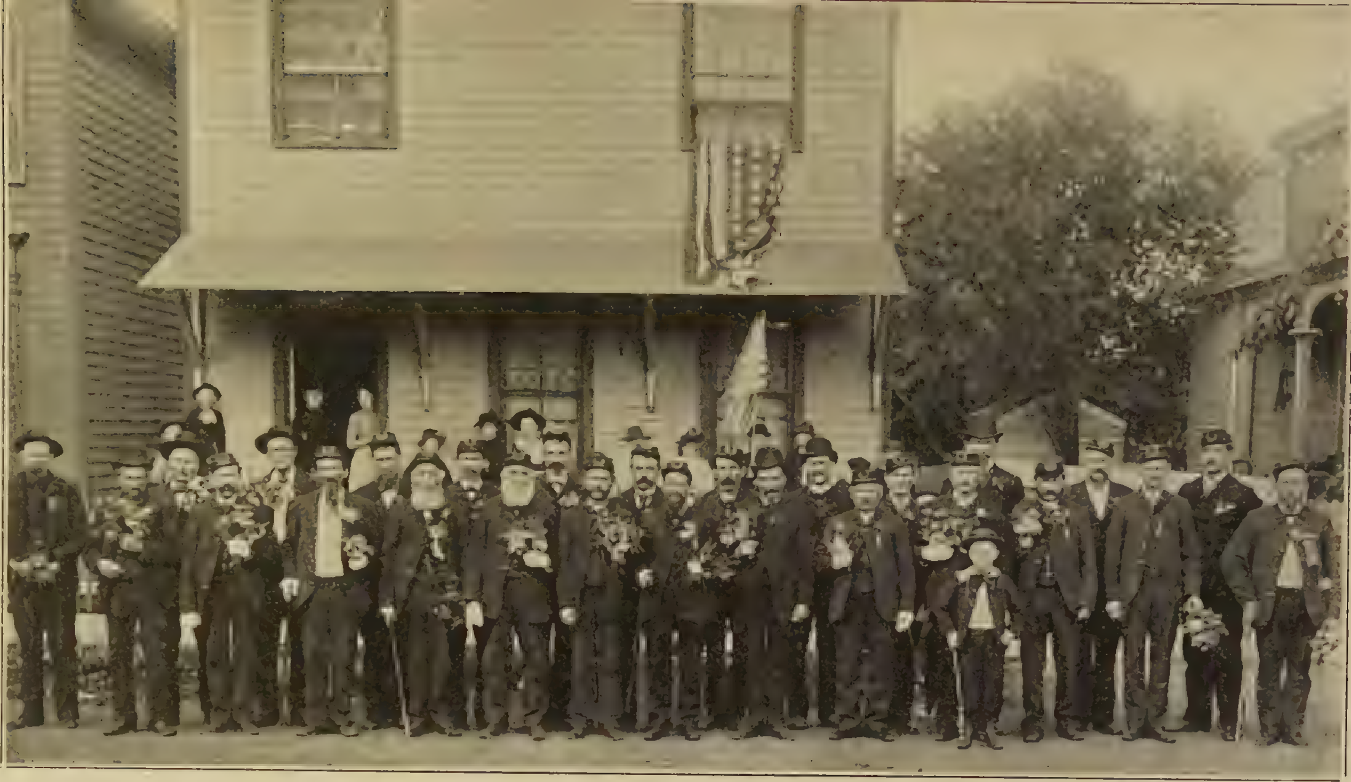
Members of Independent Company of Captain Samuel Ransom: Timothy Peirce, Sergeant, promoted Second Lieutenant January 17, 1778; Parker Wilson, Sergeant; Privates, Gideon Church; Nathaniel Church; William Kellogg, Jr.; Constant Matthewson, killed at Fort Mifflin, November 1777; Elisha Matthewson; Stephen Skiff; John Swift; Constant Searle, Jr.; Elisha Satterlee; Isaac Underwood, discharged for disability, and Elijah Walker.

SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812

THE LUZERNE VOLUNTEER MATROSS COMPANY, known as the KINGSTON VOLUNTEERS: Captain, Samuel Thomas; First Lieutenant, Phineas Underwood; Second Lieutenant, Ziba Hoyt; Third Lieutenant, Andrew Sheets; Ensign, Edward Gilchrist; First Sergeant, John Carkhuff; Second Sergeant, Jacob Taylor; Third Sergeant, Absalom Roberts; Fourth Sergeant, Henry Jones; Fifth Sergeant, George W. Smith; Sixth Sergeant, John Bowman; First Corporal, Christopher Miner; Second Corporal, Daniel Cochevour; Third Corporal, Samuel Parrish; Fourth Corporal, Ebenezer Freeman; Fifth Corporal, John Blaine; First Gunner, Stephen Evans; Second Gunner, Isaac Hollister; Third Gunner, John Prince; Fourth Gunner, James Bird; Fifth Gunner, Morris Cramer; Sixth Gunner, Festus Freeman; Seventh Gunner, James Devans; Drummer, Alexander Lord; Fifer, Araba Amsden; Privates: Daniel Hoover, John Daniels, James W. Barnum, William Pace, James Badfish, Godfrey Bowman, Benjamin Hall, Solomon Parker, Ezekiel Hall, Sylvanus Moore, Hallet Gallup.

SOLDIERS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Kingston Township furnished a large number of volunteers for the armies of the Civil War. The Fifty Second Regiment was commanded by Governor Hoyt, a Kingston man and quite a large number of its members were from the township The One Hundred and Forty Third was, however, the distinctively Luzerne County Regiment. All but two of the companies were recruited in this county. Edmund L Dana of Wilkes-Barre was colonel and George E. Hoyt of Kingston was lieutenant colonel. Company D. was largely composed of Kingston boys and nearly all of its officers were Kingston men. The regiment was organized October 18, 1862, in Kingston Township, at the encampment, located near the Back road in the present Luzerne Borough. The regiment remained in this camp at Mill Hollow for several weeks, where it was visited by thousands of people. When it broke camp, it proceeded to Harrisburg and from



VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR. Picture Taken Decoration Morning, 1880, on Wyoming Avenue, Where Light Company Office is Now Located. The Building With the Corner Only Showing is the Old Church Residence; and the House in Front of Which the Picture is Taken Was the Old Store Building of General Samuel Thomas, and Later of William Church. Veterans from Left to Right 1. William R. Gates; 2. Benjamin Drake; 3. John Lynn; 4. Benjamin Johns; 5. Nicholas Warmouth; 6. George Trumble; 7 William Boyd, 8 C. Dare; 9 John Wright; 10. Cornelius Robbins; 11. John Wallace; 12. Alfred Ervin; 13. Sandy Weir; 14. Eli Koehler; 15. Harry Hinckley; 16 William Spencer, 17 Alex Cook, 18. David Baird; 19. David Ships; 20. Joel Lynn; 21. John Price; 22. Nathan Kunkle; 23. Truman Houser, 24. William H. Boyer; 25. L. C. Darte; 26. Thomas Edwards. On Porch: Boy, Edwin Robbins; Mrs. Mary Lazarus, Annie Richards, Susie Lazarus, Edith Lazarus, Electa Wolcott, Helen Lynn. Boy in Front Row: Frank Lynn.

thence to Washington. The regiment suffered severely at Gettysburg and the Wilderness and had a distinguished record as a fighting force. Lieutenant Colonel Hoyt died early in the war, and Colonel Dana was promoted to the command of a brigade. Colonel Musser who succeeded him was killed in battle, and when the regiment was mustered out of the service, it was with sadly depleted ranks.

Following is, as complete a list, as could be ascertained, of the soldiers of the Civil War, who have resided in Kingston Township and its subdivisions:

Armstrong, Edmund V., Private, New York, Cavalry Regt.
Atherholt, Lyman, Private, Co. D., 143 Reg. Pa. Volunteers.
Atherton, James N., Private, Co. G., 3rd Penpa. Artillery.
Atherton, James, Private, Co. D., 92nd Regt. Pa. Volunteers, 9th Cavalry.
Alexander, Charles S.
Austin, Peter M.

Baird, David, Private, Co. I., 15th Regt. Pa. Volunteers; Prisoner at Libby and Salisbury.
Best, Henry J., Private, 7th Regt. Pa. Volunteers.
Bonham, Winfield S., Private, 3rd Pa. Cavalry.
Boyer, William H., Private, Co. B, 5th Regt. Pa. Reserve Vol. Infantry; Private, Co. D, 152nd Regt. Pa. Volunteers; Corporal, Co. D, 3d Regt. Pa. Heavy Artillery.
Bomboy, Peter, Private, Pa. Regiment.
Bound, Abram L., Private, Co. H, 8th Reg. Pa. Volunteers.
Bonham, Henderson, Private, Co. F, 193d Regt. Pa. Volunteers.
Boyd, William, Private, Co. I, 173d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.
Brink, William R., Second Lieutenant, 11th Pa. Cavalry.
Bryden, William, Corporal, Co. H, 8th Regt. Pa. Volunteers.
Burnett, James W., Private, Co. K, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.
Boone, C. W., Private, 1861; 2nd Lieut. March 11, 1864; 1st Lieut., October 16, 1864; Captain February 13, 1865, Co. H, 7th Pa. Cavalry.
Best, William.
Briggs, John Erwin, Private, Pa. Volunteers.

Clark, David S., Sergeant, Co. E, 7th Regt., Pa. Cavalry.
Covert, George, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers.
Covert, Madison M., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers.
Chandler, Wm. H., Private, New York Regiment.
Culver, Jasper N., Private, Battery B, 5th U. S. Artillery.
Curtis, Lorenzo J., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers; prisoner from May 5, 1864 to December 6, 1864.
Culver, John M., Co. C, 49th Regt., Ohio Volunteers.
Cyphers, Sharpe.
Cyphers, Caleb.
Culver, Charles.

Daily, Thomas A., Sergeant, Co. D, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers.
Darte, Alfred, Jr., Captain, Co. M, 64th Regt. Pa. Volunteers, 4th Cavalry.
Day, Wm. J.
DeLacy, Patrick, Sergeant Major, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers; 2nd Lieutenant, Co. D, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers.
Darte, Luther C.
Dewitt, James, Corporal, 153d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.
Drake, Benjamin S.

De Wolfe, Theodore, Private, Battery F., 3d Pa. Heavy Artillery.

Denniston, John, 2nd Lieutenant, Co. I, 50th Regt. Pa. Volunteers.

Devans, Benjamin, Private, Co. C, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers; Missing in action at Spottsylvania Court House.

Dilley, Butler, Quartermaster, 8th Regt. Pa. Volunteers; 1st Lieutenant, Co. F, 8th Reg. Pa. Volunteers; Captain, Co. D, 61st Regt. Pa. Volunteers.

Engle, George W., Private, Co. A, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers; wounded at the Wilderness.

Edwards, Thomas A., Private, Co. I, 52nd Regt. Pa. Volunteers.

Ervin, Albert F., Private, Co. H, 131st Regt. Pa. Volunteers.

Felts, John, Private, Co. G, 187th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Foster, George N., First Sergeant, Co. D, 143d Regt. Pa. Volunteers.

Gordon, Henry M., Private, Co. F, 8th Regt. Pa. Volunteers; Captain, Co. F, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Gates, Wm. R., Steward, U. S. Hospital Corps.

Hawke, Henry, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Harter, Joseph, Private, Co. A, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Harris, Lyman, Private, Co. G, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers; Wounded at the Wilderness.

Hawley, Nelson J., Captain, Co. F, 141st Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Holmes, Henry Hayden.

Hoover, James, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Hoover, Paschal L., Corporal, Co. F, 8th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Hoover, George W., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Howell, Isaac A., Captain, Co. F, 53d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Hoyt, George E., Lieutenant Colonel, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Hoyt, Henry M., Colonel, 52nd Regt. Pa. Volunteers; Brig. General, U. S. Volunteers

Hughey, George, Private, Co. H, 7th Regt. Pa. Cavalry.

Hoppes, George W.

Hufford, Lewis.

Hunlock, George R., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Hutchins, Charles E., Private, Co. E, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Jackson, Charles, killed at Gettysburg.

Jackson, Wm. Henry Harrison, Private, Co. F, 53d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Keller, George, Private, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Koehler, Eli F., Private, Co. K, 3rd New Jersey Cavalry.

Kunkle, Nathan, Private, Co. H, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers

LaBar, John.

Lamoreaux, Isaac.

Laphy, David, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers; captured at the Wilderness, died in Andersonville Prison, February 7, 1865.

Laphy, Michael, Private, Co. K, 18th Pa. Cavalry.

Laphy, Samuel R., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Laycock, Henry A., Colonel, 56th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Leach, Isaiah M., 2nd Lieutenant, Co. F, 8th Regt. Pa. Volunteers.

Lynn, John S., Sergeant, Co. A, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Little, Geo. W., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Little, John C. P., Principal Musician, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Linskill, C. D.

Lyman, Gideon C., Private, Pa. Cavalry Regt.

Lynn, Joel S., Sergeant, Co. C, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Lynn, Jacob M., Corporal, Co. C, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

McGuire, George F., Private, Co. I, 57th Regt., Pa. Volunteers; wounded at Fredericksburg.

Marcy, J. Winfield, Drummer boy, Co. I, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

McDaniels, Alexander, Private, Co. F, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Miller, Herman C., Corporal, Co. H, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Morningstar, Samuel, Private, Co. B, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Montayne, Isaac, Private, Co. A, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

McGuire, Rufus, Private, 2nd Battalion, Veteran Reserve Corps.

McGuire, William, Private, Co. H, 58th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

McGuire, James L., Private, Co. F, 203d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Moses, William, Corporal, 177th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Pace, Henry, Private, Co. E, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Perrin, Calvin, Private, Co. G, 210th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Parsons, Edward.

Perigo, William, Private, Co. E, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Poole, Amos T., Private, Co. F, 53d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Price, Commodore.

Parry, John, Private, 129th Regt., Pa. Volunteers; Corporal, Co. K, 39th Regt., Pa. Volunteer Infantry.

Price, John, Private, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Preston, George.

Raub, James A., 1st Lieutenant, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Ransom, Ira, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Ransom, Ira, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Ransom, Thomas, Private, Co. D, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Rennard, Charles.

Reese, John, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Reese, Oliver P., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Reese, George A., 1st Lieutenant, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Rice, Collins A., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers,

Rice, Edgar, Sergeant, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Rice, Jacob, Quartermaster, 53d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Rice, Wilbur F., 1st Lieutenant, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Rimer, George W., Private, Co. A, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers; Private, Co. F, 149th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Rinker, Abram, Private, Co. B, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Robbins, Cornelius, Private, Co. I, 58th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Robbins, Elias H., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers; Private, Battery B, 43d Pa. Volunteers.

Robinson, Thomas.

Robbins, Elijah, Private, Co. G, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Robbins, Adam, Private, Co. I, 56th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Roat, James A., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Roushy, Oliver L., Private, Co. F, 53d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Roushy, Levi, Private, Co. A, 15th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Rozell, Loren D., Corporal, Co. A, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Safford, Robert A., 1st Lieutenant, 8th New York Cavalry.

Schooley, William, Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Ships, David

Shoemaker, Jacob I., Private, Co. E, 49th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Shoemaker, William M., 1st Lieutenant, Co. L, 92nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers; 9th Cavalry.

Shotwell, J. R.

Slocum, George, Corporal, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Slocum, Wesley, Corporal, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Stetler, James A., Sergeant, Co. A, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Speering, Jacob.

Stevens, Enos H.

Strickland, Myron, Private, Co. F, 53d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Sterling, George H., 1st Lieutenant, Co. K, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers; died at Wyoming, January 25, 1865.

Swainbank, Miller Horton, Private, 20th Cavalry; 1st Sergeant, Co. K, 194th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Spencer, Wm. E., Private, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Stroh, Henry, Private, Co. C, 8th Pa. Volunteers; Private, Co. H, 9th Pa. Cavalry.

Stark, George M., Private, Battery M, 2nd Pa. Artillery.

Shaver, William H, Private, Battery M, 2nd Pa. Artillery.

Sutton, Ira G.

Schooley, David R., Captain, Battery M, (Schooley's Battery), 2nd Pa. Artillery.

Thomson, William, M. D., Army Surgeon, 133d Regt., Pa. Volunteers; Army Surgeon, 42nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers; Army Surgeon, 198th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Trimble, George, Private, Co. A, 6th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Tripp, Isaac, Private, Co. C, 8th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Talbot, Wm., Private, U. S. Colored Regt.

Thomson, George W., Private, Co. H, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Turpin, Charles J., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Turpin, Thomas J., Corporal, Co. D, 92nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers, 9th Cavalry.

Underwood, Gideon, M. D., Asst. Surgeon, 49th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Vermilye, H. M.

Van Arsdale, Nathaniel.

Van Buskirk, Nicholas.

Van Buskirk, Charles S., Private, Co. K, 194th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Warnick, Conrad Z., Private, 3rd New Jersey Cavalry.

Wagner, Josiah R., Private, 52nd Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Wallace, John

Whitney, Marshal G., Asst. Surgeon, August 30, 1862, Res. April 1, 1863; 137th Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Welsh, Horace M., Private, Co. D, 143d Regt., Pa. Volunteers.

Williams, John F., Private, 58th Regt., Illinois Volunteers.

Winters, Frederick, Private, Battery F, 5th U. S. Artillery.

Wolfe, Theodore D, Private, Battery F, 3d Pa. Heavy Artillery.

Wrigley, Abel, Private, Pa. Emergency Regiment.

Wright, John H., Private, Co. C, 15th Regt., New York Engineers

MEMBERS OF LIEUTENANT REILAY POST, G. A. R., WYOMING

Comstock, Giles, Private.
Smith, John, Private.
Bennett, Dyer, Sergeant.
Shoemaker, J. I., Private.
Rozelle, M. V., Private.
Parrish, Eli, Private.
Rhoades, William, Private.
Kintz, Jacob, Private.
Bilby, Lot, Corporal.
Shirley, S P., Private.
Bowman, William, Private.
Comstock, Judson, Private.
Griener, James R., Private.
Smith, Simon, Private.
Vosburg, Joseph, Private.
Arlling, John S., Corporal
Robbins, Elijah, Private.
Hoffman, Nelson, Private.
Stevenson, Samuel, Private.
Robbins, Adam, Private.
Lewis, Giles, Private.
Fuller, Rev. M. D., Private.
Stevens, Wm. J., Private.
Wright, Chauncey H., Private.
Holmes, J. M., Private.
Durland, Lewis, Private.
Jones, Henry C., Private.
Wilner, James W., Private.
Pointer, Thomas, Private.
Garnett, A. P., Private.
Winters, William, Private.
David, Amasa, Private.
Frear, Jackson, Private.
Howell, Isaac A., Private.
Hufford, James, Private.
Ferry, Homer B., Private.
Dailey, Philip, Private.
Tubbs, John, Private.
Nagle, Miner, Private.
Snow, George M., Private.
Williams, David, Private.
Raymond, J. G., Private.
Dorr, C. W., Private.
Wolfe, T. D., Private.
Jenkins, John S., Private.
Wildoner, Luther G., Private.
Long, William, Private.
Lyman, George C., Private.
Sanders, Robert L., Private.

SOLDIERS OF WAR WITH SPAIN—1898

In the War with Spain in 1898, the most of the soldiers who went from the old township were members of the Ninth Regiment, and a complete list follows. There were however, a number of enlistments in other organizations and it has been impossible to get the names of all those who volunteered for the War with Spain Following is as full a list as could be ascertained;

Beck, Howard, Private, Co. I, 9th Regt.
Coon, Crittendon, Private, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Coon, Frank, Private, Co. E, 9th Regiment.
Costello, John, Private, Co.F, 9th Regiment.
Culver, Charles M., Corporal, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Dailey, Geo., Private, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Dailey, Charles, Private, Co. H, 9th Regiment.
Deegan, Leonard, Private, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Edwards, Albert F., Private, Co. A, 9th Regiment.
Fine, David M., Private, Co. I, 9th Regiment.
Frantz, Henry P., Private, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Hatten, William, Private, Co. I, 9th Regiment.
Heberling, Claude, Private, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Hoffman, Edward, Private Co. B, 9th Regiment.
Keegan, John, Private, Co. B, 9th Regiment.
Kulp, Harry E., Musician, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Lyons, James, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
McCarthy, Martin, Private, Regiment Band.
McCarthy, Henry, Private, Co. B, 9th Regiment.
McGee, Patrick J., Co. I, 9th Regiment.
McPike, Fred W., Corporal, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Moore, John W., Private, Regt. Band, 9th Regiment.
Norris, John W., Private, Regt. Band, 9th Regiment.
Pierce, Harry W., Captain, Co. I, 9th Regiment.
Powell, Edward T., Private, Co. I, 9th Regiment.
Rhoades, Harry, Private, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Roat, Charles S., Private, Co. A, 9th Regiment.
Roat, Harry G., 1st Lieutenant, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Robinson, Stanley, Private, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Schollenberger, Royal G., Private, Co. B, 9th Regiment.
Smith, Lorenzo D., Private, Co. D, 9th Regiment.
Somberger, Frank, Private, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Stiff, William C., Private, Co. B, 9th Regiment.
Stroh, Thomas, Private, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Thomas, Frank J., Private, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Turpin, Charles Murray, Private, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Van Valkenburg, Edgar L., Private, Co. E, 9th Regiment.
Virtue, George F., Private, Co. F, 9th Regiment.
Ward, William, Private, Regt. Band, 9th Regiment.
Williams, Thomas J., Musician, Co. E, 9th Regiment.
Hess, Isaac, U. S. R., Battery F, 6th Artillery.
Space, William, Battery E, 4th Artillery.
Rozelle, Coray, Co. I, 11th Infantry.
Myers, Ed., 13th Battery A.
Reese, Edward, Battery E, 4th Artillery.
Huffard, Edward, Battery E, 4th Artillery.
Eagen, ———————, 11th Infantry.

Wilson, James, Battery I, 6th Artillery.
Smith, John, U. S. Navy.
Williams, Charles, U. S. S. Newark.
Kearns, Daniel, U. S. S. Newark.
Gay, Fred.
Darte, Frank G., Corporal, 9th Regiment.
Lewis, Andrew, Private, 9th Regiment.
Hayward, Hal G., Heavy Artillery.
Casey, John, Private.
Alworth, Harry B., Corporal, 9th Regiment.
Franklin, Robert, Private.
Dixon, Harry, U. S. Navy.

SOLDIERS OF WORLD WAR

A greater number served in the World War, than in all the other wars combined The members of the 109th Field Artillery were the first volunteers, and a complete list follows. Most of the soldiers were, however, sent out by the draft boards. Local Draft Board Division No 4, for Luzerne County had jurisdiction over Kingston Borough, Dorranceton Borough, Luzerne Borough, Swoyersville Borough, Forty Fort Borough, Pringle Borough, and Courtdale Borough, and sent out the largest number This Draft Board was composed of Frank H Law; Dr. W F Davison succeeded by Dr. A. W. Grover; Professor W. L. Dean succeeded by A. C. Shaw. The first clerk was S. M. Cooley, who was succeeded by Fred B. Davis, Esq. The legal adviser was B. W. Davis, Esq., and the Legal Advisory Board was composed of John E. Jenkins, Esq., H. A. Gordon, Esq., and William Brewster, Esq.

It is believed that the following lists contain nearly all the soldiers who went from the limits of Kingston Township and also included are many of those who have since become residents. There are a number of unavoidable duplications.

109TH FIELD ARTILLERY

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Anderson, Benjamin E., Regimental Sergeant Major.
Brobst, Clarence M., Corporal.
Dean, Henry H., 1st Lieutenant.
Degretis, Joseph, Band Corporal.
Evans, Daniel H., Private.
Graham, James E., Corporal.
Hannigan, John, 1st Lieutenant.
Hannigan, William, Musician.
Hayward, Hal. G., Color Sergeant.
Herbert, Donald G., Corporal.
Hutchison, Archibald D., 2nd Lieutenant.
Miner, Charles, 1st Lieutenant.

Mott, Leroy, Corporal.
Owens, Russell J., Corporal.
Palmer, David R., 1st Lieutenant.
Selinsky, John, Musician.
White, Donald C., Musician.
Wooditch, Stephen M., Musician.

SUPPLY COMPANY

Bolton, Benjamin, 1st Sergeant.
Evanoskey, John, Wagoner.
Frear, Robert, Private.
Kozlaski, Peter, Private.
Lamoreaux, Alfred, Private.
Lamoreaux, Raymond F., Private.
Murray, Francis J., Wagoner.
Robbins, John E., Wagoner.
Thomas, Jasper, Wagoner.

SANITARY DETACHMENT

Thompson, Dr. Lawrence, Major Medical Corps.
Breckenridge, George C., Private.
Brown, Lusk D., Private, transferred to M. P., 28th Division.
Breckenridge, John R., Private.
Chandler, Ralph R., Captain.
Doron, Charles W., Private.
Leonard, Benjamin M., Private.
Stroh, Robert H., Sergeant.
Van Buskirk, Robert, Private; killed in action October 2, 1918.

ORDINANCE DETACHMENT

Roberts, Gordon G., Corporal.
Stahl, Herbert J., Private.

BATTERY A

Dempski, Charles, Private.
Gierczncki, Stanislaw, Private.
Hannigan, John, 1st Lieutenant.
Terletsky, Peter J., Private.

BATTERY B

Begden, John, Private.
Breese, Jacob F., Private.
Bufton, Arthur H., Bugler.
Davis, David, Private.
Davis, George W., Private.
Gross, Harry J., Private.
Hornby, Harry, Private.
Hughes, K. D., Private.
Marko, John, Cook.
Mott, LeRoy, Corporal.
Nulton, Jonah H., Private.
Pointon, William, Private.
Robbins, John E., Private.
Snyder, Wladslaw, Private.

BATTERY D

Barbour, John, Sup. Sergeant.
Blackman, John H., Jr., 1st Lieutenant.
Chase, Anthony F., Private.

Cunningham, Joseph P., Private.
Gladey, Samuel, Private.
Harron, Cornelius, Horseshoer.
Jones, Robert M., Sergeant.
Kozlowski, Peter, Private.
Mott, Edson L., Private.
Murphy, Daniel F., Private.
Noble, Ernest A., Private.
Phillips, Courtney B., Sergeant.
Pritchard, Ralph D., Mechanic.
Pugh, Lewis, Corporal.
Raub, Andrew B., Sergeant.
Raub, Edwin H., Private, Died in France.
Roberts, Gordon G., Corporal.
Smith, Douglass L., Private.
Smith, Harry F., Corporal.
Sokoloski, Michael, Private.
Streater, Milton B., Mess Sergeant.
Trump, John J., Private.
Williams, Theodore R., Private; killed in battle.

BATTERY E

Ardoline, Ralph K., Sergeant.
Armstrong, James, Private.
Babchalk, John, Private.
Banta, Elmer, Corporal.
Brennan, James A., Corporal.
Bush, Gerald P., Sergeant.
Denner, William P., Sergeant.
Edwards, Norman R., Private.
Eicke, Robert, Private.
Ferguson, Theron N., Sergeant.
Fisk, Clarence E., Corporal.
Hardiman, Edward, Private.
Hewitt, John M., 2nd Lieutenant.
Humphreys, Edward, Private.
James, Elmer, Corporal.
James, Gomer, Sergeant.
James, John, Private.
Johnson, Hendrick A., Corporal.
Jones, William H., Corporal.
Keino, Joseph M., Private; killed in action.
Kolkosky, Joseph, Private.
Kratchinan, Frank J., Sergeant.
Lukish, Michael S., Private; mortally wounded and died in hospital.
Miller, Clarence M., Sergeant.
Monko, Alexander, Private.
Morgan, Robert R., Corporal; mortally wounded and died in hospital.
Morris, John R., Sergeant.
Morrison, Thomas L., 2nd Lieutenant.
Moyer, Charles O., Private.
Norrie, James B., Sergeant.
Paschick, Stephen, Corporal.
Perrin, Donald W., Corporal.
Pifer, Elmer J., Mechanic.
Price, Starr B., Private.
Pritchard, John, Private.
Regan, Gerald, Horseshoer.
Regan, Martin P., Corporal.
Reynolds, Warren M., Sergeant.

Richards, William H., Corporal.
Rifenbery, William J., Horseshoer.
Rubury, John, Private.
Rupert, Harry S., Private.
Shaver, Leslie E., Sergeant.
Saronski, Isidor, Private.
Spears, Arthur C., Corporal.
Sullivan, Daniel D., Private.
Sweezy, Marvin J., Sergeant.
Van Horn, Raymond, Private; killed in action.
Zdancewicz, Anthony, Private.

BATTERY F

Belles, William J., Private.
Dean, Henry H., 2nd Lieutenant.
DeWitt, Samuel J., Private.
Dougherty, Michael, Private.
Hannigan, John A., 1st Lieutenant.
Keeler, Fred M.
Keeler, William B.
Lewis, Russell C., Corporal.
Lueder, Karl F., Sergeant
Martin, William I., Chief Mechanic.
Phillips, Rundle J., Private.
Reese, Leroy F., Corporal.
Richards, Thomas E., Private.
Stahl, Herbert J., Private.
Swainbank, Charles S., Sergeant.
Vose, Ralph, 1st Sergeant.
Williams, Thomas M., Corporal.
Williams, Winston, Private.

SOLDIERS OF OTHER REGIMENTS

Williams, Grafton J., 2nd Lieutenant, Battery A, 15th Field Artillery.
Multer, Walton.
Multer, William.
Dr. A. B. Smith, Captain in Medical Corps.
Dr. A. C. Hazlett, Lieutenant in Medical Corps.
Dr. D. G. Robinhold, Major in Medical Corps.
Dr. W. F. Davison, Lieutenant in Medical Corps.
Dr. M. C. Rumbaugh, Captain in Medical Corps.
Dr. H. W. Croop, in Medical Corps, United States Navy.
Dr. Charles L. Shafer, Major Medical Corps and Assistant Surgeon, 28th Division.
Dr. N. H. Jenkins, Lieutenant in Medical Corps.
Rev. Joseph E. Weisley, Chaplain.
Rev. C. A. Frick, Chaplain.
Rev. John J. O'Leary, Chaplain, 2nd Division.
Robert M. Vail, Major and Commanding Officer, 108th Machine Gun Batallion.
George Stookey, Captain Sanitary Corps.

VOLUNTEERS AND DRAFTED MEN

Joseph M. Hanch
Dr. A. A. Datner
Cornelius R. Harron
Douglass L. Smith
Robert Nixon
Edward E. Reilly
James Gildea
Allan J. Eggleston
Aaron S. Bauer
Edward J. Carmody
William H. Melvin
William H. Richards
Charles H. Colwell
Stephen W. Gryzcka
Frank M. Walsh
Clarence W. Brobst
Stuart S. Major
Wladyslaw Schneider

VOLUNTEERS AND DRAFTED MEN (Continued)

Herbert T. Quinn
Claude A. Reese
Gomer W. Morgan
James D. Hutchison
Sheldon E. Austin
Michael F. Nallon
Edward F. McHugh
Jacob E. Kilnesmith
Samuel Miller
Harry K. Weir
Felix Berulis
Harry Hudick
John Slensky
William J. Wirner
Michael M. Shields
Ernest H. Millard
Harold Lewis
David J. Morgan
Eli B. Rosser
Ray Madden
Alex M. Jones
Herbert L. Ide
Mike Chircosky
Edward L. Jones
Joseph J. Finne
Joseph Romiskiewicz
Robert C. Laycock
Cyrus W. Chapin
Theodore L. Welles, Jr.
Thomas I. McHugh
Alfred S. James
William Kingster
John H. Blanford
James J. Kelly
William J. McDonough
Joseph G Short
Lawrence W. Madden
Curtis S. Harrower
Charles Dempkri
John A. Daniels
George J. Trimble
Michael J. Hagan
Charles H. Seward
Lewis S. Reese, Jr.
John H. Hughes
James Connors
John Loyelski
John F. Tanner
Joseph Madden
Benj. E. Anderson
Russell C. Lewis
Daniel E. Newell
Sheldon Evans
William E. Griffith
Stevan F. Porcho
Jacob Zaichak
Walter L. Lynn
Charles A. Lavis, Jr.
Thomas E. McManus
George W. Vivian
Michael A. Masserio
George B. Williams
Ralph W. Fralick
Mitchell Jenkins
Ben. L. Coolbaugh
Thomas A. McHugh
Edwin E. Aubrey
Edward Lobett
Falvoner R. Gilbert
Devere Moore
Charles D. Carle
J. P. Campbell
Roland E. Powers
James Hannagan
Henry Schluchevier
Harold F. Driscoll
William B. Owen, Jr.
Walter M. Miles
Frederick W. Lloyd
Carl V. Makinson
Louis L. Rogers, Jr.
Howard P. Frantz
Francis M. Mackin
Donald Parrish
Donald Veitch
Courtney B. Phillips
Harry G. Graven
Elmer McKechnie
William J. Barry
Fred E. Kreuger
Thomas P. Corcoran
Arthur J. May
Michael Lukish
Conrad E. Crane
Joseph Kulfan
Fred A. White
Ralph L. Williams
Henry Komerofsky
Peter Gibbis
Thomas L. Waters
James Morgan
John F. McGinness
Gerald M. Tamblyn
Willard I. Jones
Joseph A. Slowbowski
Michael A. Yurko
Ralph M. Husted
Frank D. Thomas
John M. Lee
John L. Lavin
Peter J. Smith
Elijah Ellsworth
Paul M. Ricker
Francis A. Conahan
Wesley M. Davis
Frank J. Boyle
Joseph R. Harris
Edward I. Wolfe, Jr.
James R. Thomas
Howard Blow
John B. Williams
Walter C. Ellsworth
Ervin S. Newitt
Eugene McAndrew
John J. Brominski
John E. Williams
James A. O'Malley
William Astin
Robert Eicke
Patrick L. Farragher
Alfred Lamoreux
Frank R. Ballou
Ralph A. Oliver
Alexander M. Dick
Joseph Savage
Walter D. May
Giles D. Randall
Peter J. Wilson
Willard V. Hanch
Thomas Edmunds
James V. Cavanaugh
Louis W. Krieger
George L. Barnes
William J. Barney
Warren E. Newitt
Wellington S. Chapin
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William E. Bloomburg
Isadore Rosenheim
William J. Evans
Howell F. Jones
Joseph Paria
Martin K. Yurgelis
Ben. R. Roberts
Anthony Charzynski
John R. Taylor
William Shonk
William Corcoran
Donald W. Powell
Russell M. Bell
Harold Hewitt
Edward J. Taylor
Henry A. Griffith
Matthias V. Sloyan
George Hudock
Charles J. Jacob
John C. Krubitzer
William Russell
William H. Price
Frank E. Coughlin

VOLUNTEERS AND DRAFTED MEN (Continued)

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Joseph A. Sarnack
Irvin Lee Deets
Antony Rekus
William D. Jenkins
John Rooney
James A. Conahan
Michael Mayernick
Llewelyn Jones
Earl A. Puterbaugh
Joseph Cheslick
Michael Metall
Joseph Bernosky
John B. Donksis
James M. Evers
Adolf Marazz
Buell B. Long
Pavla Raccosta
George Wotlak
Felix Todalsky
John A. O'Kane
William Gibbons
John A. McAndrew
John Pope
Ross H. Heidle
George Kostich
Arthur Craze
Sam Morris
George H. Waters
James Taft
George Kapusovsky
William C. Hagan
Harry C. McDonald
James A. Gibbons
Francis P. Crossin
Dwight P. Cook
John I. McGuire
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Thomas J. Walsh
Anthony Blasholzgas
Fred N. Harrison
John P. Maskelis
Walter Kremish
Anthony Urbanovich
Clarence R. Banes
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Stanley Korlowsky
Frank Williams
John W. Phillips
William M. Porter
Matimas Plitkinas
Ray P. Wrisler
Alexander Metkowsky
John Maddaford
James Morgan
Robert Walters
John Shumbris

Robert L. Smith
Paul J. Walsh
Michael Cinicki
Thomas A. Williams
John Thomas McNelis
William T. Ellsworth
William Marcowitz
Yakam Sadowy
Carl Lynn
Harlow L. Pettebone
Frank Munley
Gregorio Papatolo
James E. Brown
Dominick Wycavage
John H. McAvoy
Francesco Andreuci
Walter Klemavich
John Tomkiewicz
Franklin Griffith
Martin Pac
David P. Jenkins
Thomas S. Voitek
Frank D. Rosnick
Phillip J. Steele
Anthony Petek
William Sastinski
John G. Shamrock
August Teske
Charles Gallagher
Harry C. Roat
Louis C. Jordy
Paul Chiazza
Harry F. Keiper
Ray Kostenbauder
John S. Poust
Rudolf Feitusch
Thomas Oldfield
Alexander Strass
Andrew C. Tregnna
Harry O'Kane
George Volansky
Alex Tkach
Ralph R. Katroscik
George Houck
Joseph Simchick
George T. Morgan
Joseph C. McGurk
Thomas F. Walsh
Pompei Rock
Leroy Fish
Russell H. Crisman
Dave D. Evans
William A. Moses
Fiati Vito
Charles A. Davies
Carl Miller
Morris A. Hughes
Richard E. Walsh

Edward R. Barry
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John J. Martin
James Harrison
Thomas J. Collins
George Greitzer
Michael Ladinig
Anthony F. Madden
Albert Stitzer
Mark M. Glahn
Stanley Berka
Frank H. Greenwood
George Matthews
Raymond K. Williams
Felix Gutowski
Felix Roosevelt
Howard C. Stevens
James J. Mooney
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William Westwater
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Joseph Malikowski
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Charles F. Connors
Anthony Keminsky
S. Morton Cooley
Howard H. Conrad
Albert E. Hendershot
Calvin Parrish
Robert L. Williams
Harry L. Litts
Floyd G. Parrish
William H. Pethick
Thomas A. Connor
Ira Harlos
Lawrence W. Scott
Michael Matlock
John Kender, Jr.
Francis M. Brady
Garfield Rundle
Stephen Kashinsky
William H. King
Leon B. Gryczka
Anthony B. Clapper
Walter Adamchaski
John E. Guido
Arthur R. Roat
Howard S. Schmoll
Alfonzo Waichulis
Michael Rowan
Victor Zamulski
George Swetts
William J. Dougherty
Peter Shedlesky

VOLUNTEERS AND DRAFTED MEN (Continued)

Edward Dougherty
Frank Mazaika
Anthony Mizur
Martin F. Shields
Adam Bubnice
John Cherdowski
Thomas J. Jones
Thomas B. Mooney
William C. Proudlove
Joseph E. Matey
James R. Vredenburghe
Grover C. Fritz
William Thomas
Stanley P. Evanoski
Joseph W. Kawanis
Francis McCarty
Jake Petty
Peter Sorok
John Yokimonis
Wright LaFrance
George Stash
Peter Kurrillis
Peter P. Gill
Rufus W. Shafer
Walter Hendershot
John Pritchard
Stanley Dalkewicz
George A. Urbanovich
Thomas F. O'Malley
Edward J. Leeson
William Kalisz
Lorenzo H. Donley
Donald C. White
Calvin P. Seward
John M. Koval
Edwin H. Raub
Andrew B. Raub
William H. Conahan
Charles Yastrasefsky
Frank Groblewski
John Horwatt
George Klenotich
Gordon H. John
Edward Alden
Michael Olexsa
William T. Davis
Joseph W. Clark
John J. Nasser
James W. Hoch
John McAdam
Frank Marcen
Florian Ceguzif
Martin Meehan
Felix Cheslick
Felix W. Norscavage
Jacob Rosenbluth
Anthony Mitseavage
John Jacob
John Ondish
Andro Kovalick
Walter Cromack
Stanley Rhydderch
Joseph V. Wallace
Dominick Savage
Earl E. Bisher
Bernard Petrowski
Barney Benson
James M. Nesbitt
William G. Parsons
Fred Palm
George T. Wellington
Ira A. Watson
Frank Banta
Ralph C. Vivian
Frank J. Brennan
Anthony Lynn
Albert Newman
Giovani Fai
Joseph Senderowicz
Harry Kemp
Russell Thomas
Frank Adamites
Elwood E. Garrison
Robert Dixon
John Slowinski
Edward L. Walsh
John J. McCarthy
John Pittinger
Stanley Gibbon
Emlyn R. Williams
Nicholas Schwartz
Frank C. Hendershot
Charles Ransom
Peter Urban
Matezusas Gritenas
Charles Steinberg
Reynolds Middleton
Sabatina Chicarella
Anthony Chiher
Frank Kogolosky
Walter A. Arnold
Joseph Kapinskie
William J. Roberts
Edward Mowery
Michael McGraw
William Davis
Clarence Swartwood
Ralph Carle
Gregory Pochamovitz
Mike Berbalis
Joseph L. McAndrew
John Pretko
Joseph Groblesky
John G. Muir
Anthony B. Moran
William A. Daley
Alfred E. Davis
Julius B. Dembosky
Richard J. Tobin
Wicenty Kibieczinski
B. F. Gilmore
Michael J. Kinney
Desmond B. Blackman
Walter L. Shoemaker
Alfonzo Sincavage
Clark W. Schoonmaker
Michael Pukalla
Harold Heidle
Hypolit Savitsky
Joseph Switzer
Joseph Trianni
James E. Rooney
Stanislaw Cyrkunowicz
Donald O. Coughlin
John Kowalenski
John Hardick
William Vanfossen
John J. Wargo
Frank Sapp
Ralph C. Covert
Fred. H. Hess
Tony Martinchek
Terry McGovern
Alex Zimmiskey
Edmund Grimes
Henry W. Goodman
Locasio Salvatore
Paul Ondis
Albert J. Goodman
Samuel Bottoms
August W. Liskaunkas
William F. Kinney
Terry Riley
Joseph Stankewitz
Charles Kwiatkowski
Clarence F. Jones
John Hill
Joseph W. Zelinskey
William Rollands
William Bishie
Paul Stefanik
Barney Sinko
Martin Vanb. Eicke
Mike Kurzomthoski
Frank Dregushis
Joseph M. Dzurek
Patrick Munnelly
John Huffman
John Yancatson
Anthony Maigabage
Hendrick B. Hazlett
Michael V. Handley
Martin J. Curley
John Lawrence

VOLUNTEERS AND DRAFTED MEN (Continued)

John Marcinko
Santo Piazza
James L. Hawk
Frank C. Simonitis
George Zula
George M. Schultz
Carlos M. Krause
Michael Charney
John T. Killeen, Jr.
Charles E. Davies
William Wazanales
Michael Monfarte
Charles B. Connors
Meyrick J. Thomas
Adam Steinberg
Edward J. Connors
William J. Dyke
Bruno Gurnari
Harry Kamiensky
Joseph Grigutis
Mike Skrutko
Thomas M. Ryan
John Grady
Peter Ondish
David W. Miles
George M. Kilgallon
Samuel S. Williams
John F. McGroarty
William Shewan
Vincent J. Commiskey
Harry H. Davis
Albert G. Prater
Fred C. Harlow
Maurice Friedman
Edward Waters
Lorenzo Delly
Allen F. Owen
Joseph V. Frawley
Avard C. Sproul
Ignacy Porozcky
Stephen Hrudziniz
Herbert H. Hooper
Alfred R. Benson
Michael Krehel
Harry M. Osborne
George Ofsenko
Martin S. Markowicz
John F. Handley
John L. McEnrue
James Brislin
Miele Amato
Fred C. Atherholt
John Clairey
Ransom L. Kile
William L. Glahn
Vincent Perhach
Andrew Yurski
Howard H. Eggert
Raymond W. Loveland
Frederick Reichert
Edward Westerfield
David P. Jones
Bernard L. Smith
Frank Maksomowicz
William V. Thomas
William Potasky
John Bunosky
Michael Trceziakiewicz
Michael Russell
Ignatius F. Malikowski
Clarence A. Craig
Roy W. Kichner
Tony Strahony
Paul Nagolsky
Joseph P. McGinty
Andrew J. Jenkins
Stanley Shimansky
Joseph Volpe
Durwood A. Smith
Ray R. Reed
Joseph J. Podmenick
Gustaf Larson
Andrew L. Leeson
William P. Gaffney
Joseph E. Crossin
Joseph Lampman
Alfred E. Gilbert
Jerry J. Carmody
John Churba
Joseph A. Pacropus
George Jacobs
Albert J. Klug
Sheldon H. Loveland
Peter J. Proudlove
George W. Ide
John J. Casey
Henry W. Newman
Alex Whitman
James J. Hayward
Benjamin F. Gregory
John Blackledge
Russell Oram
John J. Ridock
William Hayward
Andro Rito
George T. Evans
Ignatz Collahy
Joseph J. Koval
Martin A. Walsh
Teofil Loch
Wilfred Chatem
Michael Shields
John Hoosick
Felix Shear
Virgil W. Sutton
William J. Keyes
Chauncey E. Benscoter
Daniel Gaffney
James Benson
Peter Krynieweski
Adam Wilks
John Sileski
Stephen C. Finnen
Oscar P. Yerg
Harry Stoneham
Mike Giddo
Frank Keize
Harold H. Sprau
Emory T. Smith
Edward Duckett
Harry Kelley
Kaspar Kasparunis
Edward J. Hughes
Stanley Martin
James R. Whitlock
Frederick A. Yeager
Legrand Bisher
William James
John Tebush
Albert L. Davis
John A. Kazimer
Gordan R. Kreitzberger
Joseph Stanikinas
Walter Gutitus
Daniel Davis
Julian C. Betz
Raymond H. Catron
John J. Skavinski
Joseph McDonough
Charles Cadd
William F. Burke
Harry J. Cease
Sherwood F. Watts
Homer A. Weiss
Bala S. Neary
Albert Pearson
Samuel Dilcer
John P. Mooney
Henry A. Sullivan
Jacob L. Bach
Robert H. Rissinger
James Carr, Jr.
Martin E. McMahon
Richard Annear
Howard A. Harrison
Thomas A. Riley
Patrick J. McGroarty
Elijah Montross
Bert F. Huey
Rufus Morris
Joseph Tressa
Elmer S. Thompson
Joseph Widitz
Salvatore Bernardo

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Martin Romanski
Edward J. McGee
Joseph Adamitz
Joseph Brennan
Myron J. Rhodes
Ira Deitrick
Richard James
Charles H. Parks
Donald E. Hutchison
Benjamin Ernest
Thomas Lewis
Michael Blannard
Albert E. Rowett
Clarence C. Cairl
Edward Smith
Harry C. Schultz
Robert L. Williams
John Laverick
Dennis McCarthy
John Adamitz
Walter W. Ruggles
Samuel A. Shannon
Russell P. Luke
Stanley Nulton
Harry F. Sorber
Peter Bishie
Desiderio Ghigiarelli
Robert B. Harding
Philip Knell
Hyman P. Burnstein
Vincent F. Sawicz
Charles J. Smeaton
Albert J. McClosky
William J. McCullough
James J. O'Neil
Thomas J. Finley
Martin Seitchek
George H. Castle
Chester C. Wilcox
William B. Stevens
Fred. M. Scheidel
Edward P. Quigley
Harry J. Flanagan
James K. Johnson
John F. Monahan
Frank M. Sullivan
Ralph S. Hendershot
Howard Sutton
John C. Tomasek
Joseph C. Pickutowski
William Scanlon
Harold Frantz
Michael J. Koscho
Mike Ondish
Michael M. Markowitz
Charles Muncatchy
Deane D. Oliver
John A. Eichorn
Henry Beckers
John Steele
George J. Mooney
Frank Worlinsky
James Ceccone
Jacob Begosh
Eugene L. Gilmore
Adam Borkoski
John Kolesar
George A. Rambus
John J. Derzak
Earl M. Price
James A. Sullivan
John J. Lambert
Owen Williams
Pat Brennan
Walter Kresge
Roy Case
Michael Pauley
Andrew J. Sabonis
John M. Olejnik
Peter J. Keyes
Frank L. Ammerman
Stanley J. Barvinski
Louis C. Eicke
Stanley Shewan
Ernest W. Honeywell
Walter H. Steinhauer
Gerald J. Grimes
J. Muir Crosby
Michael Vasilus
Ralph G. Scott
Joseph A. Kashmer
Ralph R. Schmoll
Stephen M. Koval
Albert G. Davis
Huntington F. Smith
Francis P. Dunn
James J. Kloran
Clarence M. Laidler
Edward R. Aston
Nicholas Monko
James H. Smith
Clarence F. Kresge
Howard Lewis
Newell H. Schooley
Carlton J. Chapin
Murray S. Scureman
William H. Evans
William B. Crane
Allison H. Miller
Perry R. Chapin
Reuben H. Rosenheim
Ralph W. Finnen
Rollin E. Moyer
James Canfield
Wesley E. Davies
Ira H. Marvin
William J. Donlin
Joseph P. Maher
Ralph M. Easton
Donald R. Hershberger
Harry W. Scureman
Francis A. Leeson
Lewis G. Wagner
George H. Deets, Jr.
Phillip L. Gibbons
James Penn Shepherd
Ralph D. Engle
Charles M. Rosser
James E. Brodhead
Vernon C. Stevens
Wesley F. Harrison
Francis J. Lyons
Jay Monahan
Arthur Thompson
Paul A. Callendar
Albert J. Williams
Harry Vivian Reese
Bernard S. Bush

SOLDIERS FROM LUZERNE BOROUGH IN THE WORLD WAR

Annear, Richard
Austin, Sheldon
Ambosi, John
Adamites, Frank
Alden, Edward
Bernalis, Felix
Banta, Frank
Bednarski, Anthony
Bednarski, Joseph
Brislin, William
Burke, W. Frances
Bubnice, Adam
Burns, William
Bernardo, Samuel
Barry, Wm. J., Jr.
Beckers, Henry
Byelick, E. W.
Boyle, Hugh C.
Blight, William
Botlonis, Samuel
Bishee, Peter
Blosholggas, Anthony
Becker, George
Conahan, James
Cullen, Leo
Crossin, Francis
Callahy, Ignatz
Craze, Arthur
Collins, Thos.
Cruse, Oscar J.

SOLDIERS FROM LUZERNE BOROUGH (Continued)

Coughlin, Don.
Clarey, John
Craig, Clarence A.
Conahan, Wm. H.
Ceccone, James
Cade, Charles
Culotus, Walter
Carlin, Frances
Crocker, Carlton
Digugis, Frank
Dover, Bert
Dattner, Abram
Dixon, Robert
Deguzes, Anthony
Donlin, William
Dalkewicz, Stanley
Dejunis, George
Daley, William A.
Denboski, Julius
Deguzis, Florian
Eichorn, Andrew
Eichorn, John A.
Eichorn, Joseph
Engle, Ralph
Evanoski, Stanley
Edwards, William
Evans, David
Evers, James
Ernest, Ben.
Feitusch, Rudolph
Frantz, Herman
Frantz, Harold
Fiske, Clarence
Fralich, Ralph
Frantz, Howard
Bellis, William
Gildea, James
Griffith, Franklin
Grabski, Theo.
Griffith, John G.
Glahn, Charles
Goodman, Henry
Glahn, William
Goodman, Albert
Guido, John
Gumare, Bruno
Grady, James
Hundish, Harry
Herdusa, Jack
Hewitt, John
Harris, Joe R.
Heoran, James J.
Harlos, Ira
Hendershot, Ralph
Hewitt, Harold
Hooper, Herbert
Henderson, William
Hoffman, John
Hendershot, Albert
Hendershot, Walter
Jacobs, John
James, Brislin
James, William
Jones, Thomas J.
Johnson, Kenneth
Jacquish, Murray
Johns, Gordon
Kinnic, Charles
Klom, James J.
Kartuski, Joe
Kawara, Joseph M.
Kresge, Walter
Kostick, George
Kane, Edward
Kinney, Michael
Kresge, Clarence
Kile, Ransom L.
Kostenbauder, Ray
Killeen, John T.
Keller, Kunkle
Kelly, Howard
Lewis, Harold
Layos, Andrew
Lyons, William
Layou, Ernest
Lyons, Frances
McAndrew, Thomas
McDonough, William
McNelis, John
McAndrew, John A.
Markelis, John P.
Morgan, James
McCarty, Francis
Matte, Charles
Morris, Samuel
Mowery, Edward
Marchulis, Adolph
Merforke, Mike
Madden, Thomas
Mazarko, Peter
Moses, Lewis
Moses, William
Moses, Charles
Monahan, Jay
Matscalles, John
Morscavage, Felix
Monahan, John J.
Majakus, Frank W.
Mizus, Anthony
Mattee, Joe
Monfarte, Mike
Morris, John
Nesbitt, John
Nothoff, Fred.
Nulton, Stanley
O'Kane, Harry
O'Kane, John
O'Brien, Thomas
Pero, Leo
Poust, John
Papatola, William
Porter, Martin
Pifer, Elmer
Podmenic, Joseph J.
Parkes, Charles H.
Podmenic, John
Putroski, John
Pulcois, Anthony
Petty, Jake
Pulokus, Anthony
Proudlove, W. Charles
Puterbaugh, Earl A.
Raggelis, Peter
Rosenick, Frank
Raub, Edwin
Reed, John
Riley, Terry
Raub, Andrew
Roberts, W. J.
Rifenberry, William
Robbins, George
Rice, Stanley
Rowett, Albert
Roberts, Ben
Rowley, Philip
Rielly, Edward E.
Rekus, Anthony
Sheminski, Frank
Scott, Lewis
Slavinske, Cecil
Slevitzy, Paul
Slavinske, Leroy
Saunders, William
Smith, Robert L.
Scott, Elmer
Scott, Leonard
Steiner, Bernard
Stoneham, John
Stoneham, George
St. Monday, Mozzee
Shonk, William
Strahoney, Toney
Sullivan, Henry A.
Stoneham, Harry
Scanlon, William
Sullivan, Edward L.
Sokolsky, Mike
Serstinski, William
Swar wood, Clarence
Sward, Calvin P.
Smith, Emery T.
Sobick, Frank
Skrap, Stanley
Sullivan, William

SOLDIERS FROM LUZERNE BOROUGH (Continued)

Treganna, Andrew
Taylor, John R.
Taylor, Edw., J.
Touch, Frank
Urbanovich, Anthony
Urbanovich, George
Voitek, Thomas
Williams, Robert
Whitman, Martin
Williams, John E.
Williams, Edgar
Williams, Samuel
Whitman, Alex
Walters, Wardell A.
Wicavage, Dominic
Whitman, Frank
Woodish, Steven
Ykimonis, John
Yastrasysky, Charles
Ychonie, Martin
Zitz, Mike
Zimnisky, Alex
Edwards, Arnold
Graham, James
Griffith, Harry
Skrap, Joseph

SOLDIERS OF WORLD WAR FROM WYOMING AND WEST WYOMING

Agresti, Sarvino
Ash, Howard
Anderson, Clarence
Allo, Guiseppe
Buscemi, Domenico
Boldosky, William
Bumby, George J.
Booth, Harry
Booth, William
Button, Charles S.
Bantazzo, Vincent
Busha, Michael
Brown, Charles
Barritt, Eugene
Brundage, George
Cizik, Joseph
Conti, Adam
Crosby, Raymond G.
Calvey, John
Cooper, Frederick W.
Chognofsky, Roman
Cotter, Peter F.
Clark, John
Cross, F. J.
Coon, Ira
Carey, William
Cohon, Edward
Dusa, George
Driesbach, Albert
Damon, George R.
Durkin, Anthony A.
Eyster Edward
Eaton, Robert
Earl, John L.
Eagen, Joseph A.
Falconi, John
Fink, Ralph
Gilligan, Thomas
Goodwin, Edgar H.
Goode, Charles P.
Glacz, Michael
Grauzlis, Peter A.
Griffith, Floyd
Harmon, Jacob P.
Hooper, Richard C.
Hutchins, John H.
Harcutskie, Charles A.
Jurik, Wasil
Jenkins, Frank
Karbensky, Frank
Kessler, Herman C.
Kirk, George
Kirtkowski, Joseph
Kirk, Ralph
Kelley, Howard
Kluger, Maurice
Kelley, Neil
Kubista, Edward
Korcutski, Charles
Leas, Charles
Leas, Ernest
Laverick, Richard B.
Lott, John J.
Leas, Clarence B.
Leach, Fred.
Lindchalk, George
Lzymszak, U. S.
Martini, Victor
Mott, Clarence C.
Miller, George C.
Martin, Paul A.
Mularkey, William
Newvilis, John G.
Orzelle, Andrew
Phillips, Henry D.
Pogarelli, Joseph
Rushock, Stanley
Roman, John
Roshawk, Stanley
Rygiel, Frank J.
Riechers, Henry G.
Rose, James
Rowlands, Edgar
Sovetsky, Anthony
Schmell, Raynerd G.
Sabatini, Mario
Sickler, John
Shuella, Oscar
Szymozak, Wojiech,
Schooley, Philip
Shady, Peter J.
Smalley, Arthur G.
Shaver, Howard A.
Serafini, Tyllio
Shirley, Hobson
Shady, George
Smith, Claude
Seaver, Leslie F.
Santarelli, Ceaser
Turner, Charles
Tawbawozus, Antanas
Tubbs, Aaron F.
Tevlin, John P.
Taubar, Paul
Tonrey, Leo J.
Tonrey, Francis
Vandyke, Leroy
Vincenzo, Randazzo
Vanscoy, Samuel E.
Williams, Fred J.
White, Jacob
Walisiewics, Witold
Weeks, Delbert B.
Wheeler, Fred. C.
Wall, Frank
Yancosky, John J.
Yanashafski, August
Zdrojeski, Michael
Zinu, Joseph
Edgar M. Sanders
William Cruickshank
Chas. Kasavage
Merle Breese
Chauncey P. Custard
Fred. Gilbert
Floyd Gay
John Soblick
Dr. Almon Hazlett
Harry Hornby
Joseph Kamor
Joseph Dralich
Ralph Rozelle
LeRoy Miller
Jacob Breese
Ralph Hornby

SOLDIERS FROM WYOMING AND WEST WYOMING (Continued)

Walter J. Huntz
George J. Dennis
Frank Decker
Olds McMillan
Joseph McGovern
Francis Soro
William J. Collins
Hughie Jones
Paul Chiazzi
Paul Tauber
Guiseppi Cerqua
William Montgomery
Ira B. Walters
Anthony Yancosky
Leo K. Mullison
Lawrence R. Spencer
Vincent Picconi
Edward E. McGovern
David Wolfe
Joseph Brady
Robert Cotter
George Hess
Joseph Wintle
Harry Myers
Jolinah A. Nulton
Bernard J. Gilligan
Adam Kams
Kenie J. Kelley
Mike Kurck
Kirkland MacDougall
Thomas Ridgley
Peter J. Roman
Dr. A. Burton Smith
Fred. W. Wertz
Kenneth Wendling
Thos. Kosiskey
Andrew Zavada
William K. Russell
Edward Duda
Chas. Cadora
Chas. L. Snyder
Eugene H. Haines
William K. Martin
Joseph Lipsko
Geo. Eckhardt
Charles Bevan
Malcolm Smith
Friend Peters
David Morgan
Dr. John Colvin
Ernest Rummage
Arthur Buffton
Stanley F. Ritter
Joe Filippina
Vincent Quretrett
Howard Schooley
William Snyder
Harry S. Rupert
Floyd Hileman
Howard L. Ash
Alfred Chapman
Robert Frear
Thomas A. Gaughan
Stanley Golec
Edward Hornby
William H. Jackson
James W. Jackson
LeRoy Mott
Frank Petrauskas
Rolland Robbins
Paul Rozelle
Luther Rozelle
William H. Totten
William Walters
Leon E. Welliver
Cecil Carpenter

BLACK DIAMOND POST 395, AMERICAN LEGION

The membership of which includes those residing in Edwardsville, Kingston, Pringle, Courtdale, Luzerne, Trucksville, Shavertown and Forty Fort.

Philip L. Rowley
John Panco
James O'Malley
William Brislin
Paul Dieter
Stanley Miller
Austin Davies
John F. Mack
Walter Miles
Geo. Wilson
Geo. Castle
Arthur Newton
Fred. Harlow
Chas. E. Coles
Wm. Davies
Earle R. Herbert
James Smith
Donald White
John Dellas
Fred J. Nagle
Levi Lawrence
Austin Gibbons
Mike Metall
Robert Waters
Chas. Colwell
John Hulka
John J. O'Leary
John Tomkiewicz
Leonard D. Morgan
Marvin J. Sweezy
Earl G. Daniels
Jos. L. Weisley
Reynolds Middleton
Walter F. Greenwald
Marty A. Walsh
Giovanni Fai
William Toomey
Ethelbert Moon
Henry W. Goodman
Carl W. Lynn
Shadrach Morris
Raymond Lloyd
Stanley Swiantek
Leonard Bolton
James Parker
William H. J. McIntyre
Carl H. Lynn
A. E. Reese
Dr. Lewis L. Rogers
Wm. H. Pethick
Andrew Metura
Richard D. Howard
William Rifenbery
Jacob White
John Nadzam
Harry Taylor
John J. Emanski
Dennis G. Saienni
Francis L. Brodhead
William M. Denn
Edward James
Arthur Price
George Fannich
T. J. Walsh
Jas. Earley
Craddock Lewis
James C. Gildea
James V. Cavanaugh
Andrew Ontko
Owen Roberts
Harry A. Griffith
Timothy McCarthy

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Thomas Lovett
Alfred E. Davis
Daniel Williams
Felix Shear
Leslie Davies
Edward F. Rimmer
Geo. E. Stookey
Stanley Uroblesky
Michael Tomko
John Horwatt
Adolph Novash
Walter Klemavich
Joseph Zarvachi
John Burke
Emil Moncovich
Michael Zuk
Leo Sevello
Reuben W. Greenwalt
Fred Webber
Albert J. Goodman
John Blackledge
John W. Williams
Dr. Franklin L. Fine
John F. Dardzinski
Adolph Twardowski
Rev. Carl Metz
John McCarthy
Walter H. Steinhauer
Charles E. Knott
George Urbanovick
Anthony Urbanovick
George Turner
John Shivel
Charles Gray
Abram Daniels
William H. Jones
Thomas Jones
Peter P. Gill
Richard L. Gill
Michael Blannard
William H. Bebb
William Woodland
Donald A. Benning
Peter Tyszko
Andrew M. Putera
Claude Newhart
Charles B. Vancampen
Joseph Washelefski
Peter Hignievicki
Daniel Jones
Richard James
William J. Kern
Samuel R. Arnold
Anthony Plukis
Edward L. Jones
Hugh Riddall
Elmer McDavitt
Elmer I. Davis
Bernard Comisky
Michael Krehel
Jacob Hirel
John Jacobs
John E. Silvani
Edward C. Crompton
Arne B. Anderson
Peter Naylis
Daniel M. Shaver
Stanley Aston
Robert L. Williams
Geo. L. Barnes
Herman E. Plieskatt
Alfred W. Adams
Thomas M. Ryan
Herbert Jones
Carleton C. Jones
Dr. R. R. Janjigian
Dr. M. C. Rumbaugh
David W. Miles
Dr. H. W. Croop
C. E. Crane
Stanley Oerkvitz
William Williams
Patrick McAdair
Stanley Metrick
Anthony Pretrosky
Frank Greenwood
Robert M. Miller
Peter Lynch
Dr. Benjamin F. Griffith
John W. Britt
T. M. Williams
W. C. Williams
Patrick Naylis
Charles Lavis
Mark M Glahn
Gordon Davies
E. Pearl Warden
Claude E. Beers
Edward K. Conrad
Howell F. Jones
John J. Lambert
Mitchell Jenkins
William J. Fahey
Donald O. Coughlin
Andrew Novitski
Harry E. Ralston
Dr. Charles L. Shaffer
Edgar W. Hartman
Frank Twardowski
Peter Kaminski
Henry L. Sullivan
Archie Wolfe
Dr. Chas. J. Kistler
Edison Lewis
Arthur R. Roat
Reuben Levy
James B. Schrank
Ralph Mathews
Earl Bossert
Frank Munley
Abram Francis
Dr. E. M. Ellsworth
William York
Victor Kamarauskas
Peter Sawicki
Edward Alden
Harry Kierl
Sheldon Evans
Emery T. Smith
James B. Norrie
Anthony Kuzma
Welton Batey
Emlyn Williams
George H. Thomas
Gordon Mac Kellar
A. Harden Coon
Dr. A. B. Whitesall
William H. Oliver
Andrew Shimshick
John A. Nicols
Frank Bartosewicz
Michael Metura
John Janusky
Karl Miller
Walter Wempa
John McGuire
Stanley Shukwit
Ben. L. Coolbaugh
Michael Stefancin
Richard J. Wilson
Edmund J. Hessler
John H. Doughty
Theodore J. Puhlick
George T. Morgan
Raymond E. Sweet
Daniel E. Newell
Mark M. Fink
William Westwater
W. M. Powell, Jr.
Raymond L. Jones
William L. Evans
Robert M. Vail
Joshua A. Golightly
William B. Freiler
Samuel L. Clark
Michael Mavernick
Joseph W. Kowanis
Charles H. Snyder
Herbert Ide
L. C. Scheifly
Hale S. Coughlin
Charles E. Davies
Harry Sorbers

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Claire Jones Murray
R. Delbert Craig
Ralph W. Lear
John Karbon
Harry M. Carey
D. A. McCarthy
H. A. Fillmore, Jr.
J. P. McGuinness
Dr. B. A. Courtright
Arthur C. Spears
H. D. Baldwin
J. R. Dooley
Michael Reper
George E. Griffith
Robert H. Poe
James Morgan
Leroy Lewis
Andrew Rashefski
Raymond E. Lueder
Dr. Ralph R. Chandler
William A. Oncay
John H. Blackman, Jr.
Robert L. Coughlin
Michael Charney
Joseph A. Harris
John Kemper
Allan W. Sanford
Stephen Nadzan
Joseph A. Gerchak
Stanley Rhyderach
Newell Kester
Elmer J. Ricer
Corwin F. Baptiste
Alex W. Dick
Edward J. O'Connors
Edward W. Williams
Roy R. Tyron
John H. Pritchard
Philip Klug
Thomas McManus
Walter Kresge
Peter Brussock
William H. Wilson
William L. Luitzel
Dorrance Reynolds
William A. Brown
Paul S. Robinson
Ben Harlow
Fred. L. Parry
Fredrick Rodgers
Anthony Washesky
Joseph Degutis
John D. Brewster
Albert M. Clifford
Arthur D. Berlew
Leon B. Gryczka
William J. Lewis
Alex M. Kresge
Bernard S. Bush
Thomas J. Law
Reeder Miller
M. Stanley Gizenski
George Powiko
W. D. Roberts
Harold R. Hewitt
Guido Cornell
Sigmund Makarczyk
Edward Mowery
Thomas B. Mooney
George J. Mooney
Elmer Poe
Harry J. Flanagan
James J. Mooney
D. Clark Shinaman
Henry L. Jones, 2nd
Dr. T. J. Wenner
Frank Maksimovicz
D. J. Romanoski
John R. Morris
Leo J. Castle
Ralph W. Fralick
Charles B. VanLoon
Leroy Reese
Edward H. Bolinsky
William J. Roberts
Charles Doran
Leroy Wolfe
James A. Canfield
Alfred Darte
Arthur Balcomb
Thomas Muldowney
A. George Prater
Douglass L. Smith
John Petro
Ben Mitchell
Arch D. Hutchison
Robert H. Jones
Newell H. Schooley
Thomas H. Day
William J. Barney
Philip Gibbons
Elmer James
Morris Freidman
Charles Freidman
John Taylor
William J. Dougherty
Herbert H. Hooper
John F. Albeck
William Martin
John Scarff
Robert Weilenbeck
John Martin
J. C. Krubitzer
John Koval
C. U. Makinson
Michael Ancin
Fred. Cadwalader
E. J. Eggert
S. D. Shewan
Albert L. Davis
Raymond C. Wagner
John Hill
Dr. H. K. VanTuyl
Rev. Hansen Bergen
John Shoblock
M. R. Rosendale
Andrew M. Perosh
James R. Phillips
Benjamin C. Post
Dr. S. H. Straessley
William Daley
John Thayer
John Allen
Joseph W. Talarsky
Dr. N. H. Jenkins
John H. Doran
Gordon Johns
Philip R. Friedman
Joseph H. Lampman
J. B. Brady
Albert J. McClosky
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Vincent J. Sawicz
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- Dr. Edward I. Wolfe
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- Frank Walent
- Thos. L. Varker
- Dr. Edward R. Aston
- Robert Roberts
- Lillian Edwards Stark
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- Fay A. Betchel
- James Morgan
- W. J. Brown
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- Harry B. Hankey
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- Charles Ronall
- Frank Kuchta
- Thos. H. Atherton
- J. Harry Mannear
- James Hannigan
- Howard K. Jones
- Dr. George A. Shuman
- Robert Thompson
- Samuel Shannon
- C. W. Lee
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- Gilbert Griffith
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- Homer C. Teall
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- Samuel J. Raub
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Clarence E. Kemper
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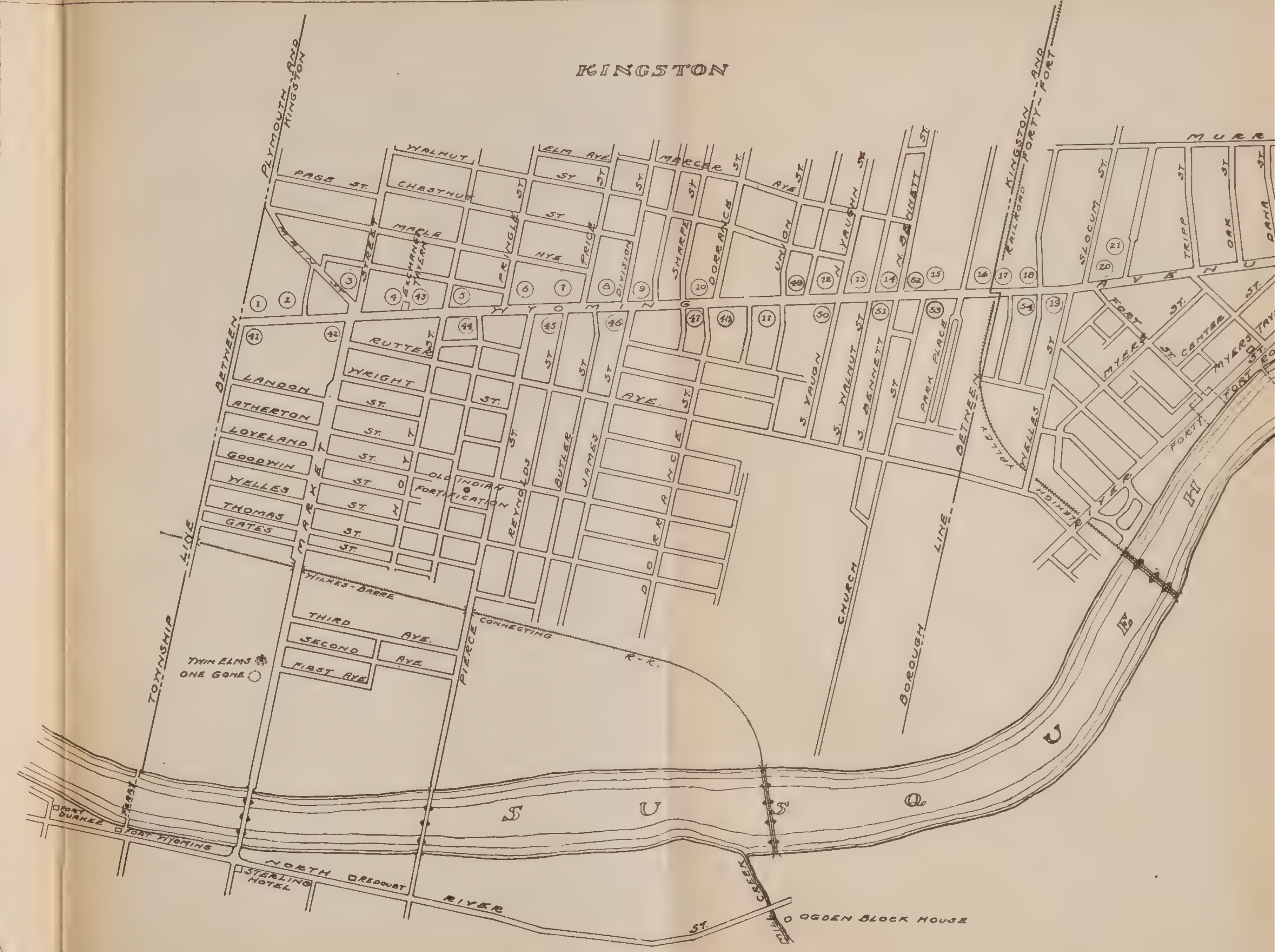
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ST.
CREEK
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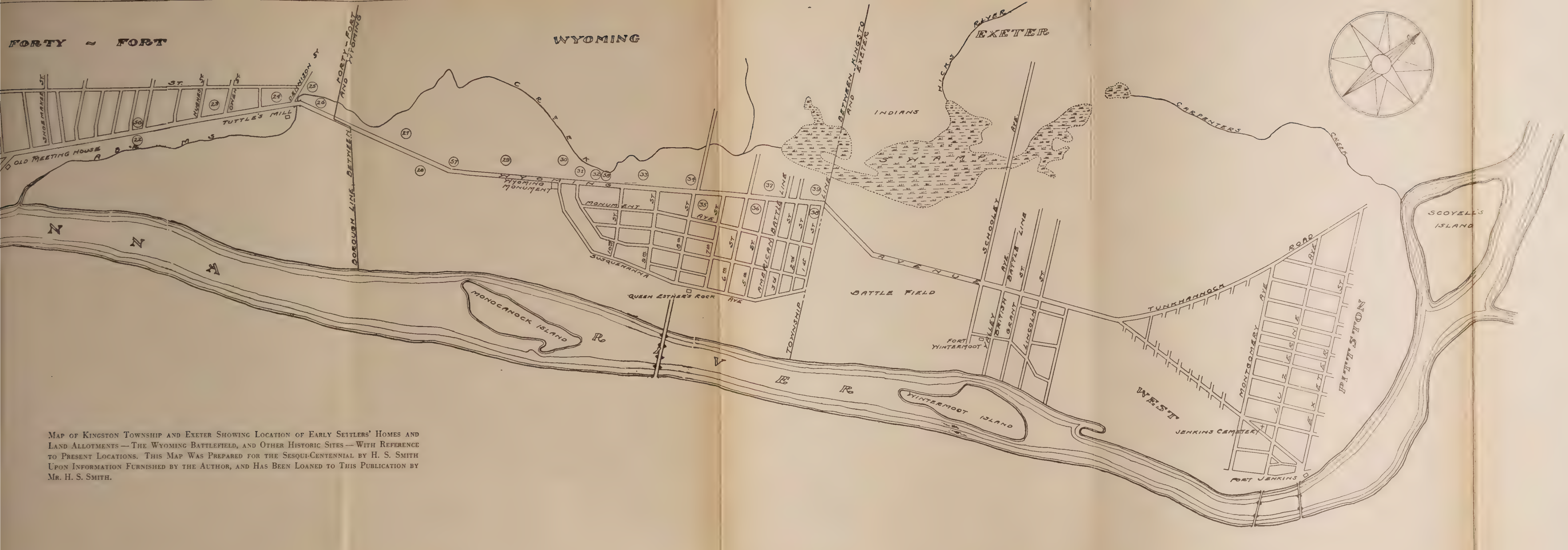
S U S Q U E H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Map of Kingston Township and Exeter Showing Location of Early Settlers' Homes and Land Allotments — The Wyoming Battlefield, and Other Historic Sites — With Reference to Present Locations. This Map Was Prepared for the Sesqui-Centennial by H. S. Smith Upon Information Furnished by the Author, and Has Been Loaned to This Publication by Mr. H. S. Smith.

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